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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH, 2010

'FLYING VET' NOT GUILTY

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

VALE 'Flying Vet' Maurice Kirk was cleared at Cardiff Crown Court on Tuesday of offences relating to the possession and sale of a First World War machine gun, which had been mounted on a vintage aircraft.

After retiring for four hours on the 12th day of the trial, the jury found Mr Kirk (64) of Marlpits, St Donats, not guilty of possessing the prohibited weapon, and not guilty of selling or transferring it.

Seconds after he was found not guilty, he refused to return to the cells where he had been remanded in custody, and it took two security officers to forcibly take him below.

After the outburst, the judge pointed out to the jury that Mr Kirk had to be returned to the cells for certain formalities to be carried out.

"He will be released," he said.

A woman member of the jury – who had been in tears – said: "Thank God."

Judge Paul Thomas revealed to the jury that during the trial, someone had posted on Facebook a list of the jurors' names.

There was no suggestion, he said, that Mr Kirk was responsible for it. There were no addresses given and the names were removed.

The judge said that a person had been arrested and had been charged with contempt of court.

(Last week, Nadia Feldmeier (34) of Port Road East, Barry, appeared before Cardiff Crown Court accused of contempt of court, and this hearing was adjourned).

Prosecutor Richard Twomlow said that Mr Kirk, described as an eccentric, parted with the gun which was a prohibited weapon and, he alleged, capable of being fired.

He said that an undercover police officer known as Foxy, who gave evidence behind screens, contacted Mr Kirk and asked if the weapon was for sale and was told: "She's no longer with me".

He was then asked if the gun had been de-activated and, it is alleged, Mr Kirk replied: "No, this one works."

Several firearms experts gave evidence, stating that the gun was capable of being fired.

The judge had pointed out that the case had entered its third week and he asked Mr Kirk if he wanted to give evidence and call witnesses.

Mr Kirk did not go to the witness box to give evidence and did not call witnesses.

The judge told Mr Kirk that by failing to give evidence, the jury could draw adverse inferences, and he added that in no way would he bow to any pre-conditions imposed by Mr Kirk.

Mr Kirk's response was: "There are serious abuses of the law in this court".

At one point, he claimed that the police had "hounded him" for 30 years.

"That's what this case is all about", he said.

One day last week, he refused to be silent when addressed by the judge and had to be forcibly taken to the cells.

On that occasion, a number of jurors were visibly upset.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

FREED! Maurice Kirk celebrates with legal consultant Frank Werren outside the court on Tuesday.

Store thanked after Poppy Appeal raises more than £5,000 for Royal British Legion

MEMBERS of the Royal British Legion Barry branch presented Waitrose staff in Palmerston with a certificate of appreciation – after they collected more than £5,000 during last year's Poppy Appeal.

Poppy Appeal stalwarts Graham and Barbara Davies are a familiar sight at the store every October and November.

Graham, aged 76, who is originally from Pembroke, and served in the Artillery during the 1950s, said: "The certificate is to put on record our thanks to Caroline and the staff members for their hospitality.

"When we do the collection, we arrive at 8am each morning and the staff are always helpful, asking if they can help with the stand, or if there is anything else we need."

Last year, over a 17-day period which ended on November 11, Graham and Barbara raised a total of £5,135.50. They were beaten to the Poppy Appeal Area Cup, by Bridgend Asda, which has the significant advantage of being a 24-hour-store.

The chairman of the Barry branch of the British Legion, Mr John Hobbs, said: "While we must remember and honour those who have died, it is important to also remember the living.

"That is what the Poppy Appeal does – looking after the families of Service personnel, both past and present."

ABOVE: Graham Davies (on left) Barbara Davies (right) and the chairman of the Royal British Legion Barry Branch, John Hobbs, present Waitrose manager Caroline Sullivan with a certificate thanking the store for its support during the Poppy Appeal.

Waterfront plans

NEW plans for Barry Waterfront have been revealed, including a new 'community facility'. (SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS).

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'Safety must come first on Barry Docks Link Road'

WE believe that the safety on the Docks Link Road, Barry, is of paramount importance and that is why we again raised it at the economy and environment scrutiny committee of the Vale Council last September.

We were very pleased that when this matter was discussed, there was unanimous backing for further safety improvements.

The current road work is only an initial response to improvements, but regrettably (at the time of writing this letter) in the first two days of being in place, there have been two accidents – as drivers do not realise that there is no longer a dedicated left turn onto the Link Road from Coldbrook Road East.

Thankfully, no-one has been seriously hurt, but as local councillors, we have asked our highway officers to reassess the junction configuration and make it as safe as possible, while the work is being undertaken.

Although some people may be inconvenienced by not being able to make some right hand turns off the road, it will allow the work to take place safely.

We hope that the road will become safer than it was in the past and this will improve highway safety for all concerned.

In order to assess what is being proposed as a long-term solution, we have also requested a further update to be reported to the scrutiny economy and environment committee.

We understand that the consultant, who has been commissioned by the Vale Council, has been asked to recommend further safety options and these recommendations will be considered by the scrutiny committee in March or April.

We hope that while the current work is being carried out, drivers will be patient and more vigilant.

We also hope that eventually a full safety review will make the road as safe as possible and eradicate any further fatalities on this very busy road used by everyone in the area.

Couns Anne Moore, Fred Johnson and Neil Moore, (Councillors for Cadoc ward)

What happened to commonsense?

TODAY, at about 2pm, I was travelling south along the Barry Docks link road when in front of me, at the Coldbrook Road East junction, from the golf club vicinity emerged a small red car.

No problem, there was plenty of room. The problem arose when the numpty in the red car came to the lay-by at the bridge over the railway line near McDonalds.

He pulled into the lay-by, checked the road behind him and then did a u-turn over the carriageway and over the double white lines. He then proceeded back towards Barry.

It will not be long before someone who just can't be bothered to use the McDonalds' roundabout, gets 't-boned' on the rise.

Perhaps now is the time for the Vale to place some large stone blocks in the lay-by, to try and encourage these numpties to use a bit of commonsense.

Dave Adams, Barry

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Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

HORSES VERSUS DOGS ON BARRY ISLAND'S BEACH

I RECENTLY contacted the local council to check whether or not I was permitted to take my horse for a ride on the beach (the *Gavin & Stacey* beach) in Barry.

I was very pleased to hear that I was permitted to do so between October and March and at any time during the day, providing I cleaned up after the horse.

So, on Sunday, February 7, I took my horse *Apollo* on a trip to the beach.

I was so pleased that while I was tacking him up, near to Marcos, many people came over to say hello, to stroke him and some even took photos.

I headed off to the beach, really looking forward to a nice walk. I certainly wouldn't trot, canter or gallop him, because the beach was fairly busy and being a health and safety consultant, I always err on the side of caution.

My partner was with me, keeping a lookout for any droppings, and we also took a bucket and shovel with us to ensure that any droppings were cleared up.

Apollo is a big, beautiful 17.2h thoroughbred and he's a real gentleman, and despite several dogs (off their leashes) running around his legs, barking at him and one even trying to bite his tail, he behaved impeccably.

Two dogs were very persistent, a little white Westie type kept running up to *Apollo* and barking, and a brindle greyhound type kept doing laps around him and even tried to bite his tail.

I joked with the owners saying they must think he is a very large dog.

One turned away from me, making the comment – 'shame you don't clean up after yours, though'.

I replied that I did so and that we have a bucket and shovel with us to do just that.

Then a lady started pointing at three small droppings that *Apollo* had left.

I again explained that we do clean up after ur horse. She went on to say it's a shame we hadn't done it sooner, as her dog had rolled in it.

Surely it's up to owners to control their pets? And there are plenty of other smelly, horrible things on the beach that dogs can roll in.

I explained that we had just as much right to be on the beach as the dog walkers.

She continued to complain and at this point I had to walk away as I was quite angry.

I was in total control of my horse, but dogs continually ran at him, though I did not complain.

We are all animal lovers, so surely dog walkers could be a bit more compassionate?

It's a darn sight easier to clean up after your dog than when you are 69 inches up off the ground on a horse and it is not possible to get on and off without a mounting block.

My partner does his best to keep up with me (on foot) and to pick up the horse's droppings as quickly as possible.

I am a very responsible horse owner/lover and would just point out that my horse is not permitted to roam the streets of Barry fouling the pavements,.

Nor does he cock his leg and take a pee on cars or private property.

He doesn't spend hours on end barking and growling at passers-by, and he certainly won't bite or savage any children.

Joanne McCarthy, Barry

Footnote: What do other readers think on the merits of dogs and horses on the beaches?

£1,318 collected for Haiti relief

ON January 21-22, Tesco management invited the local Red Cross to collect funds to send aid to Haiti.

Six members of the link group of Barry Red Cross collected for the two days, and with the help of staff, management and most of all, the great generosity of the customers and public, we collected the amazing sum of £1,318.08 – which goes straight to the Disaster Fund (DEC).

The support shown to the Red Cross and our works in the disaster areas at times like this, show the community spirit in Barry, and our thanks go to all the people who contributed.

Peggy Taylor, (Barry link group).

HISTORY OF DEER PARK

AS proud owners of a beautiful historic deer park in the Vale, we are keen to maintain both its magical landscape and its former buildings.

On the brow of the hill in the park, from which you can see Llantrithyd and the Somerset hills in the distance, are the ruins of Sir John Aubrey's former deer keeper's lodge.

We are wondering if any of your readers have any information or recollection of how this building looked in the past or, indeed, names of anyone who may have been connected with Llantrithyd Deer Park.

Currently, we are rebuilding some of the fallen stonework to maintain the structure of the building, and it would be fascinating to know more of its history.

Adrianne Leijerstam
Llantrithyd Park
Bonvilston
CF5 6TQ
(Tel: 01446 781900)

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL FEBRUARY 11)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
11 Thur	04.51	8.3	17.15	8.4
12 Fri	05.32	8.8	17.56	8.7
13 Sat	06.11	9.2	18.29	9.1
14 Sun	06.44	9.5	19.01	9.3
15 Mon	07.17	9.6	19.31	9.4
16 Tues	07.47	9.6	19.58	9.4
17 Wed	08.14	9.6	20.27	9.3
18 Thur	08.46	9.4	20.59	9.2

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide tablespecific to their location.

USEFUL VALE INFORMATION

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111
(Emergency number 999)
COASTGUARD 01792 366534
FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188
HELPLINES
Alcohol and drugs:
Drinkline **0800 9178282**
National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families **01656 785435**
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755
MENTAL DISTRESS
(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
Mental Health Helpline:
Freephone **0800 132 737**
MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan
01446 730792 or www.mindinthevale.org.uk
CHILDLINE 0800 1111 - www.childline.org.uk
Rape Crisis Centre 08451 221331.
RSPCA 0300 123 0744. MIND 01446 746191.
AIDS helplines 0800 567123.
Child abuse – NSPCC 0808 800 5000.
Alcoholics Anonymous – (24 hours) 0845 7697555.
Drug Aid (24 hours) 02920 881000.
Inroads Drugs Project – 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support -
Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's SURGERY TIMES

To make a surgery appointment with John Smith MP, contact the constituency office (01446) 743769. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

CITIZENS' ADVICE

At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Drop in Mon-Fri (not Weds) 9.30am - 4.30am (Wed 11am-6pm); at Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road 9.30am - 11.30am Mon and Fri. Telephone advice 0845 120 3756. *Further information www.adviceguide.org.uk*

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999.

Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.

Electricity - Emergency 0800 0520400; Water - Emergency 0800 052 0130; supply 0800 0520130.

Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 700111. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline, 01446 700111.

To report a fly tipping incident - 01446 700111.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.

For Out Of Hours Chemists, call the Vale of Glamorgan Local Health Board on 02920 350600, or NHS Direct Wales on 0845 4647.

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PCS union carrying on fight for Vale Court 'admin' jobs

A UNION is fighting to keep the jobs of administrative staff in the Vale Courthouse in Barry, rather than having them moved to Bridgend.

The GEM understands that if the Courts Service has its way, of the six 'admin' jobs, two would be moved to Bridgend, two full time and a part-time position would have to relocate elsewhere, possibly to Cardiff, with the remaining job and part-time position remaining to man the reception in Barry.

Mr Bill Harle of the Public and Commercial Services Union said he would be meeting the staff in Barry later this week to discuss the options available to them.

He said:"The union has made intensive representations opposing the moves. Neither the staff nor the union are happy about this.

"If staff are not being asked to go to Bridgend, they are being asked to move to Cardiff which is considered within a reasonable travelling distance.

"For some members, who have caring responsibilites in their personal circumstances, it is difficult when you take into consideration the extra travelling time."

Mr Harle pointed out that most of the staff restructuring throughout the south east Wales area of the Courts Service had been achieved through voluntary means.

He said the situation in the Vale of Glamorgan Magistrates Court was a case of the service trying "to tidy it up before the end of the financial year".

Mr Harle added that he was concerned that there would not be a sufficient counter presence in Barry, bearing in mind people had to anwer the phone and take lunches.

A spokesman for the Court Service told The GEM: "A small number of staff moves are to be made from Barry courthouse, as part of an overall exercise to balance workloads and staffing numbers across all courts within south-east Wales.

"The moves follow an extended period of staff and union consultation. No alternatives to the proposals were received as a result of the consultation, so the moves will now be implemented over the next two months."

The spokesman added: "During a period of tight budget control, it is essential that we demonstrate best use of taxpayers' funding in providing our services."

£20,000 cable theft at Barry

BARRY police are investigating the theft of £20,000 of copper electrical cabling from the Hexion Chemical works on Sully Moors Road between 6pm on January 27 and 6am the next day.

They are asking anyone who saw or heard any suspicious activity, to contact Acting Detective Sergeant Nicola Owen at Penarth CID on 029 20572354, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

NEWS FROM YSGOL SANT CURIG

Hats for Haiti!

PUPILS and staff from Ysgol Sant Curig, helped the international aid effort for disaster-hit Haiti by wearing a variety of Hats to school.

Children and staff wore cowboy hats, Russian hats, bobble hats and some children made their own creations!

A school spokesperson said: "In 2002, Ysgol Sant Curig worked with schools from Haiti in a fundraising project and is willing once again to support the country.

"The school held a service to highlight the difficulties Haiti faces after the earthquake.

"The children made a wonderful contribution of more than £300 towards the aid effort, hoping to improve the situation there".

Dinas Powys burglary: Four men arrested

FOUR men have been arrested, following a burglary at Llandeilo Close, Dinas Powys.

It occurred between January 18-20 when items were stolen, including a laptop computer and a PSP games console.

Two men, aged 26 and 30 from the Barry area were remanded in custody and a third Barry man, aged 33 released on police bail.

Two have also been charged in connection with a burglary at Upper Cosmeston Farm late last year.

Women's Day

BARRY Memorial Hall will host International Women's Day on March 10, from 12pm-7pm (admission is free) and guest speakers include Maggie John (Doris from Gavin & Stacey).

There will be stalls, pamper sessions, and a celebration of Celtic women through music, poetry and prose.

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Vale of Glamorgan AM Jane Hutt visited the Tiffin Rasoi, and thanked them for pledging 50% of their proceeds to the Haiti Earthquake Appeal.
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Chef's flavours of the month
This month our executive chef has dreamed up a heavenly collection of mouth-watering dishes. This tempting selection is only available until the end of February so now is the time to head for Tiffin Rasoi to taste the finest and freshest Indian food on offer. £5.50 each

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Pupils say 'thank you sir, for your 25 years service at Jenner Park school'

Colleagues' tribute.

IT was a big day of celebration recently at Jenner Park Primary when a teacher notched 25 years at the school.

Pupils joined in the celebrations for Mr Cooke, who started in Jenner Park in January 1985 – when there were no mobile phones, or downloads, and cyber was something from *Doctor Who*!

Mr Cooke received a cake and a cheque from the staff, and the pupils had chocolate!

Mr Cooke said: "I was a young man when I started!"

Teacher Miss Durham said: "I wasn't even born 25 years ago!"

The school's headteacher, Mr Davies, said: "Mr Cooke is someone who is always ready to help – he is always selfless and has a good sense of humour! The staff appreciate having him around."

Pupil T said: "He tells jokes, makes sure your work is right and boosts your confidence."

The governors added: "This is a real achievement and we'd like to express our regard for his loyalty and commitment to our school."

Thank you sir!

Tory AM's surgery

DAVID MELDING, Conservative Assembly member for south Wales central region, will be holding an advice surgery on Friday, February 12 at 29 High Street, Barry, between 10am-11.30am.

Dog fouling is targeted after Welsh medium school pupils voice their concerns in Barry

Vale Council enforcement officers and 'Scoop,' the team's mascot, visited a special assembly at Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc following complaints from children about dog fouling.

A NUMBER of streets around a Welsh medium primary school in Barry have been targeted by Vale Council enforcement officers, following complaints from children about dog fouling.

Areas around Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc at St Paul's Avenue were the subject of a high visibility campaign by officers.

This resulted in the issuing of two £75 fixed penalty notices for dog fouling. The officers also attended a special assembly at the school during which the dangers of toxoplasmosis – a disease that can be passed on to humans through dog faeces – were explained.

Every child was given a bag and leaflet for their parents.

Regular patrols are currently being undertaken around the school, and senior enforcement officer Denny White said: "The school has reported a vast improvement in the cleanliness of the problem streets and, hopefully, the people responsible have realised their behaviour is unacceptable."

Blue 'scoop the poop' bags are available free from council offices, and Denny added:

"It could not be easier to bag, tie and bin pet poop.

"If you are in a public place, such as the street or a park, remember to always take a bag with you."

FocusBARRY says thank you

I WOULD like to thank members of the public who have expressed their support for the FocusBARRY initiative.

We arranged a public meeting at the HUB to measure support for the idea and we were delighted with the attendance and encouraged by the resulting public feedback.

Many have expressed an interest in becoming members of FocusBARRY and we intend to hold a meeting of these people in the next week or so to move the project forward.

Thank you all for your enthusiasm and support.

Brian Osborne
(For FocusBARRY)

Pupils get a graphic lesson on bullying

RIGHT: The pupils watch the play.

PUPILS in year-7 at St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School watched a dynamic production by the 'Is It?' Theatre Company on February 2, which addressed the issue of bullying through a multi-media presentation and workshop.

The theatre-in-education group presented a scenario based on the real diary entries of a teenage girl.

The audience of 11 and 12-year-olds learnt how her self-esteem and confidence were gradually worn down until she was driven to desperate action.

The question and answer session which followed challenged the young pupils to consider, 'What are YOU going to do about it?'.

Sixteen-year-old Elizabeth Bolton is a trained peer supporter at St Richard Gwyn, where senior pupils are available every break and lunch time for a chat or advice, to help nip in the bud any potential problems or bullying issues.

CM

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'More bars, restaurants and amenities'

Barry Waterfront consortium pledges more facilities

by TIM CHAPMAN

THE consortium planning to bring a mixture of housing, community facilities, bars, restaurants and retail to Barry Waterfront, hopes work will begin in September.

The Barry Waterfront Consortium has submitted revised plans to the Vale Council which it says are even more ambitious than those submitted last August.

The new set of plans includes an increased number of bars and restaurants compared to the original scheme, as well as a new community facility which will be devised in consultation with the council.

The district centre will be located adjacent to The Mole (the piece of land that juts into the dock). It has been remodelled to create a square that will be surrounded on three sides by bars, cafes and restaurants, with the fourth side open to the Waterfront and park.

An artist's impression of how the Waterfront will look once the development is complete – if the plans are accepted.

Barry Waterfront Consortium spokesman Richard Keogh said: "Our ongoing public consultation has revealed a real appetite for an expanded commercial quarter within the scheme and we have shown our commitment by continuing to make improvements to the plans as the proposals progress through the planning process.

"The new-look waterside square, community facility and café quarter will create a vibrant heart for the new waterside development with a continental feel."

Mr Keogh said the consortium was hoping for rapid progress once planning had been agreed.

"Despite some delays in the planning progress, we are in regular contact with the council, and are hopeful that the outline plans will go before a planning committee in early spring.

"If this timescale can be met and the scheme is given the go ahead, we are still on track for work to commence in September this year."

The proposals for the £250 million regeneration scheme include a new link road to Barry Island within the early phases of development and approximately 2,000 new homes which will be a mix of private and affordable housing.

Mr Keogh said there would be major benefits in terms of job creation

"The sooner we are able to start work on site the sooner local people will start to reap the benefits of this major regeneration scheme. For example, the site will immediately create construction jobs, requiring up to 1,990 temporary employees over a nine-year period.

"Long-term, as a result of the establishment of a stronger and more attractive retail centre and the creation of a waterside leisure destination, the scheme will create 700 permanent jobs based on the site, as well as a further 800 additional jobs across the local area generated as a direct or indirect result of the development."

MARINA

Paul Haley, the chairman of Pride in Barry, said: "We are keen to ensure that opportunities for community activities and facilities are maximised at the Waterfront, as part of the Barry regeneration development.

"We have made our views known on this and other aspects of the development. We must ensure that the development of Barry recognises the importance of enhancing and enabling our town and community infrastructure to provide a strategic role in the social wellbeing of those working and studying at the Defence Technical College which is on our doorstep."

Mr Haley said there needed to be an ongoing source of funding for the town, and that its existing infrastructure – such as the dock – should be exploited.

"Barry Regeneration needs a proper funding stream. That will ensure that we can all get on with the job of delivering and supporting the largest inward investment into Wales, and provide quality housing, excellent facilities, and proper utilisation of the heritage which is already here, such as a marina in the dock."

He said a partnership approach was needed involving the Vale Council, ABP, The Assembly, the consortium, the Defence Technical College, and the community to discuss all of the proposals and funding streams.

Local councillor Chris Elmore said: "I welcome news that the consortium are listening to the concerns of people and are increasing the amount of facilities.

"I have consistently called for more leisure services within the development.

"Details of what the consortium are offering needs to be looked at I would like to know what type of community facility and what type of cafes and restaurants they are hoping to attract."

(See story top right)

Will Waterfront community facility be new museum?

THE new planning application submitted by the Barry Waterfront Consortium identifies space for a purpose-built community facility – the exact nature of which will be decided in conjunction with the Vale Council.

A group of local historians, formed by Dr Jonathan Hicks, have met on several occasions recently to discuss the merits, feasibility and sustainability of a Vale Heritage Centre to be sited on the Waterfront in Barry.

The group will present its case to a meeting of a council scrutiny committee in March.

Speaking to The GEM, Dr Hicks said: "It is our intention to submit to the committee of councillors from across the Vale our assertion that the cultural history of the Vale needs to be recognised and remembered in an environment conducive to study, enjoyment and entertainment.

"We have the support of local schools, other historians and writers, the various local history societies across the Vale, business people and councillors.

The possibilities of using this venue are immense and our presentation will reflect this."

Dr Hicks was at pains to stress that his group was not asking for a Barry Museum; he envisages a Vale of Glamorgan Heritage Centre which is sited in the county town of Barry. "People with an interest in the history of towns such as Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Penarth should join with us in requesting that the Vale Council ask the developers to fund and build a facility that would be used to display material that at the moment lies in private hands.

"I have been inundated with messages of support from people across the Vale who care passionately about preserving the heritage of our fine area.

"The space is allocated in the plans and the capital funding is to be sourced from the developers.

"What is now required is the vision and will of the Vale councillors to support an exciting project that will reap dividends for the area for decades to come."

Dr Hicks enthused: "Imagine entering a modern space that guides you through the history of this area from the Neolithic Age, through the Roman occupation, via the Middle Ages to the military and social history of the Vale in the last century.

"It would be a remarkable, stimulating and, at times, moving experience which would entertain and inform adults and children alike.

"We are, however, conscious of costs and are therefore realistic in our aims. If the Vale Council is only able to offer us a modest facility, then so be it.

The important thing is that we make a start. For too long the Vale has lacked a central focus for its heritage and history. This is the ideal moment for the development of this building to begin.

"Next week will see the official launch of our group and we will be outlining in more detail how we envisage the Heritage Centre working and how it will ensure its sustainability.

" We will also be meeting shortly with representatives of history societies from across the Vale to discuss how we can present a united front in our quest to ensure that the Vale's history is told in a building that is fit for purpose."

If you would like to give your support to this proposal, or have suggestions on the use of the Heritage Centre, Dr Hicks's e-mail is: ninian27@btinternet.com

Woman found dead

ABOVE: Wendy Barnes.

A BLIND woman from Barry, who went missing last week, was found dead on Friday night, February 5.

Wendy Barnes (46) who lived in Llyss Gwent was discovered near Sully Road, Penarth.

She was registered blind and had hearing difficulties, and on Friday morning, the police had issued an urgent appeal to the public for information on her whereabouts describing her as 'vulnerable'.

Superintendent Liane James said: "I would like to thank the community who came forward with information that was instrumental in us discovering Wendy Barnes, our thoughts go out to her family."

Her death is not being treated as suspicious.

£2,000 for Tenovus

I WOULD like, on behalf of the Barry Friends of Tenovus committee, to thank all who attended, or gave donations in lieu, for their support of the Christmas cocktail party.

This was held at Fonmon Castle and our thanks also go to Sir Brooke and his staff, and the caterers Really Fresh Food Company. The musicians, Cumbria String Quartet, also added to the ambience of this successful evening.

With all the support, we were able to raise £2,000 for the Tenovus charity, and hopefully we can arrange a similar event in 2010.

Beryl Holmes (Treasurer, Barry Friends of Tenovus)

Motorbike journey on the Trans Canada Highway

RHOOSE WI NEWS

RHOOSE WI met at Rhoose Community Hall, on February 4 when the president welcomed members to the first meeting of the New Year, the January meeting having been cancelled due to bad weather.

Dr Ted Hellewell gave a talk and showed a film of his motorbike journey across the Trans Canada Highway, which he made to raise funds for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Plans were made for the coming year; members were notified of the Link meetings planned by the Glamorgan Federation of WIs, and were also asked to vote on the proposed Resolutions for 2009/2010.

A number of worthy causes were proposed, but Rhoose WI voted almost unanimously to support the proposal for the 'Provision of lifelong health and welfare support for armed forces personnel and their families'.

Members will visit Plas Llanmihangl in May, when they will tour the house, afterwards having afternoon tea; and Aberglasney in June.

Fundraising coffee mornings are also planned and weekly social afternoons at Rhoose Social Club will take place on Fridays at 2pm.

The Lunch Club will meet at The Aubrey Arms on February 26 at 12.30pm.

However, the weekly walks have been postponed until the weather improves. The meeting closed at 10.15pm.

The next meeting will be on March 4 at Rhoose Community Hall, Stewart Road, Rhoose, when the speaker will be Mr Desmond Woods, who will give a talk on The Botanical Gardens of Wales.

Members will celebrate St David's Day with a supper of cawl and Welsh cakes and the theme of the competition will be 'the daffodil'.

Read your GEM online at *barry-today.co.uk*

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Vale pubs will be monitored using 'traffic light' system

A NEW 'traffic light system' to monitor public houses in Barry and the rest of the Vale is to be rolled out by the police.

Chief Superintendent Carl Davies, the new commander for the central division of South Wales Police, explained that the idea was to identify which pubs were safe and which were causing problems.

Those regarded as safe and responsible would be designated 'green light', but those identified as 'red light', would face sanctions.

Chief Supt Davies explained: "If a licenced premises is 'green', it is a case of 'well done' and encouraging people to frequent it, but if it is red then action will be taken.

"We want to see responsible licensing with professional supervisors on doors, and a determination not to serve those who have had too much to drink."

He emphasised that people of all ages should be able to enjoy meeting in town centres without being put off by anti-social behaviour.

The police are also taking special measures on the days of Six Nations matches to ensure that people don't overstep the mark.

But Chief Supt Davies was also keen to point out that while the issue of excessive drinking was a problem that would be addressed in long term partnership with the Vale Council, clamping down on drug dealers was also a big priority.

He said that police intelligence gathering was leading to more success and that anybody supplying drugs was likely to get caught.

"We are winning the battle and some big players have been taken out.

"If there are people living a champagne lifestyle, don't appear to have a job and the public think there is a link to criminality, we would ask them to give us that information by calling Crimestoppers 0800 555 111."

VALE COUNCIL TAKES PART IN GOVERNMENT YOUTH JOBS CREATION SCHEME

THE Vale Council is to take part in a Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) scheme, which is designed to give six months work to young people who have been claiming benefit for six months or more..

Under the scheme, the Vale Council will employ 96 young people in the next 12 months, and the council is expecting a total grant of £624,000 from the DWP, although at the moment, only £312,000 has been initially approved.

That initial £312,000 is intended to cover young people employed between January and June of this year, with the second grant intended to fund further places for the second half of the year.

The news was revealed at a meeting of the Vale Council cabinet. The scheme will pay wages at the national minimum of £5.80., and 28 hours a week are on offer with each job.

The cabinet was told that, although the council will be the employer for all the posts, a number of the posts will be with Valeways and Communities First. The lifelong learning employment training service will manage the project, and the DWP grant will also pay for this.

The 96 jobs, according to the report, will go to 76 individuals who have been unemployed in the Vale for 10 months or more, are aged 16 _ 24, and are currently claiming job seekers allowance.

In addition, the project will target 20 "long-term unemployed men aged 25+ in the higher economically inactive wards of Gibbonsdown, Court, Cadoc and Castleland".

PACT meetings

COURT PACT will be held at The HUB, YMCA, Court Road, Barry, on February 15, 5pm-7pm.

GIBBONSDOWN AND DYFAN PACT, Colcot Community Centre, Keats Way on February 16, 10am-1pm.

GIBBONSDOWN PACT, The Community First Office, Aberaeron Close, Barry, on February 16 at 2pm.

BARUC & ILLTYD PACT, Park Parlour grocery store, Park Crescent, Barry, on February 23, 10am-1pm.

PENDOYLAN Community Council meeting, at Pendoylan school on February 11, at 7.45pm.

RHOOSE PACT, Celtic Way Community Centre, on February 16, at 7pm.

LLANDOW/EWENNY PACT, Ewenny Village Hall on February 17, at 7pm.

ST HILARY Coffee and Chat meeting, St Hilary Village Hall on February 19, at 11am.

SULLY PACT, Jubilee Hall on February 11, at 8pm.

Iraq hero's mum issues urgent plea for support

A LOCAL appeal set up in memory of a soldier killed in Iraq is looking for support.

The Craig Barber Memorial Fund has been established by his mother Cheryl Rowlands, of Blaengarw.

She is hoping to raise money to build a holiday villa for wounded military personnel at Golden Grove mansion near Llandeilo. She has joined forces with a charity based there, which is also fund-raising.

Cheryl, who is a nurse, needs good quality items she can sell at car boot sales and other events, She needs clothing, books, toys, bric-a-brac and jewellery.

Anyone able to help can contact her on 01656 872400.

Vale man arrested after indecent images found

JEREMY COLMAN, until recently the Auditor General for Wales, has been arrested on suspicion of possessing indecent images.

The Wales Audit Office said last week that Mr Colman, of Dinas Powys, had stood down "following an internal review around matters of personal conduct", and that the office was cooperating with the police.

A police spokesman said this week: "A 61-year-old man from the Vale of Glamorgan has been arrested on suspicion of possessing indecent images.

"He has been bailed until March 3 pending further enquiries."

'Vote of confidence in St Athan' – says Vale MP

VALE MP John Smith, welcomed the Ministry of Defence (MoD) decision to hold an event in Parliament earlier this week to promote the £12 billion Defence Technical College (DTC) in St Athan, as a "vote of confidence" in the project.

John Smith, who has been at the forefront of the campaign to bring the DTC to the Vale, said: "I warmly welcome the MoD's parliamentary exhibition on this record investment.

"This is a vote of confidence in the St Athan project and shows yet again this Government's solid commitment to the future of this part of Wales. While others cast doubt over the DTC, the government is taking action to make sure the St Athan project is delivered on target.

"To have underwritten more than £110 million of essential works linked to the project during these tough economic times, shows to the people of Wales that the Government is not getting cold feet about it.

"I will continue to work flat out to ensure that local people and businesses are in pole position to reap the huge benefits from this transformational project, once full contract signature is made this year," Mr Smith vowed.

MONEY DAY Thursday March 4

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News from Penarth and District Ramblers

FOLLOWING THE UPS AND DOWNS OF A CHANGING LANDSCAPE

RECENTLY, following a slight covering of snow at home that no one was expecting, 10 walkers joined their leader Val Hartrey at Cogan for the trip up to the Beacons.

Their journey up the A470 went fine until they turned up the steep winding lane that leads to the Brecon Mountain Centre, which was covered in snow and not gritted; however, with some care they all arrived safely.

The Mountain Centre stands at 335-metres (1100-feet) above sea level and was opened in 1966 with financial help from the Carnegie Trust and is now solely managed by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority.

Perched beside Mynydd Illtud, it has superb views across the valley to Pen y Fan, the highest mountain in south Wales and the central Beacons range.

The group, eager to get started, set off in a south-easterly direction along the track, which was covered with several inches of snow. The pools that are always present beside the track were covered with thick ice making underfoot conditions tricky in places.

Following the edge of Traeth Mawr, they crossed a stile further on and passed through fields with kissing gates that led them to the Defynnog Road.

A short piece of road-walking followed, before they joined a track that led them into a forestry plantation at Coed Tymawr.

This was an ideal place to pause for morning coffee before following forestry tracks that were muddy and slippery underfoot in places.

The winding pathway narrowed and eventually they emerged into a steep-sided field and under a blue sky they had brilliant views of the Beacons and up the valley towards Brecon.

During the walk there was a noticeable lack of sheep and cattle; the group pondered that perhaps it was because of the snowy conditions, and they had been moved closer to farms or placed inside barns.

By now they had reached a track that follows the base of Fan Frynach, which at a height of 629-metres towered above them. A buzzard flew overhead as they picked their way along a snowy track, trying to avoid the iced pools. One walker identified rabbit and fox tracks in the snow, where the marks from the fox's tail were really evident.

A stop was made for lunch amongst snow laden branches beside the path and it being a special day, the leader was serenaded with a chorus of 'Happy Birthday'. Moving on and making the descent to join the lane at Forest Lodge Cottages they deviated across a boggy area at Traeth Bach.

This bog along, with Traeth Mawr which stands beside it, is a haven for wetland wildlife and bird habitats.

The peat deposits contain valuable records of the climate in south Wales since the Ice-Age. The landscape of Wales was of course shaped and moulded by the ice ages - the Devensian, which began 120,000 years ago and the most recent, a mere 10,000 years ago, was the Flandrian era.

By now the sun had made the walkers, who were wrapped up warmly against the cold, feel rather hot as they made their way along part of Sarn Helen, the old Roman road.

All that was left was to follow the road back to the mountain centre where they had an enjoyable and refreshing cuppa before the journey home.

On February 13, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 10-mile hard walk at Tor y Foel; contact Barrie on 029 2053 0753.

On February 14, meet at 9.30am at the Barry Waterfront for an 8-mile moderate walk at Parc Slip near Aberkenfig; contact Janet/John on 01446 418514.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, contact the walk leader for advice.

For other groups' walks, log onto www.ramblers.org.uk Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Miss Vale finalists are truly pampered!

ON the eve of the final of Miss Vale of Glamorgan 2010, the reigning Miss Wales joined finalists for an evening of pampering to calm pre-pageant nerves at Senses In The City, brainchild of Marina Lois, Claire Viader and Kerry Voke.

Having launched last month, the Vale finalists were among the first to be treated to the Senses In The City experience, a holistic therapy and a bespoke perfume-making.

The winner of Miss Vale of Glamorgan will be presented with the perfume she created during the evening.

Claire, Director of Holistic Therapies, said: "The Miss Vale of Glamorgan girls have been working very hard, raising money for The Joshua Foundation in the run-up to the final and so we were delighted to be able to offer them what we think is the ultimate girly pampering experience."

Reigning Miss Vale of Glamorgan and Miss Wales 2009 Lucy Whitehouse from Barry, was also present to give the girls advice for the big night, and was able to create her own scent as a prize for winning last year's competition.

Courtenay Hamilton, one of the finalists from Llantwit Major, said: "Getting ready for the competition has been so much fun and I'm very excited at the prospect of winning my own bespoke perfume called Courtenay. I think that's very cool!"

Chelsea Evans from Barry, said: "Women love to be pampered and I'm no exception. Tonight has been one of the highlights of the competition for me."

Miss Vale of Glamorgan finalists: Stephanie Vaghidas, Courtenay Hamilton, Stephanie Davey, Chelsea Evans, Linsey Gordon, Rochelle Gough.

CCTV assists with eight Vale arrests

CCTV, working under the umbrella of the Safer Vale Partnership, assisted with eight arrests and one ASBO referral in the week ending February 7.

It contacted police on 41 occasions, with one arrest concerning possession of an illegal substance (Holton Road, Barry, February 1) and another for public order in Llantwit Major (February 4).

Five arrests were made for assault; the first on Ffordd y Mileniwm, Barry, (February 5); three at High Street, Barry, (February 6) and one in Llantwit Major (February 6).

An additional arrest involved criminal damage at Victoria Square, Penarth on February 7.

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Showcase proves that Wales' apprentices are rising to the challenge

LAST week was Apprenticeship Week in Wales, which was dedicated to celebrating the skills and enthusiasm apprentices bring to employers across Wales.

It featured demonstration events by training providers and good news stories about real apprentices.

Young apprentices at Barry College were delighted when Lesley Griffiths AM, Deputy Minister for Science, Innovation and Skills, visited and tried her hand at a number of plumbing and electrical tasks.

During her taster session, she took up the 'apprentice challenge' and after watching demonstrations by apprentices, Kayleigh Jay Dyke and Sophie Knight, she tried a number of assignments and gained a few skills.

After her session, the deputy minister said she had been impressed by the training programmes and the enthusiasm of the young apprentices who were gaining highly relevant skills.

She said: "The apprenticeship programme is strongly supported by the Welsh Assembly Government, because it creates real opportunity for young people in Wales, while also delivering significant benefits to employers and their businesses."

"I hope we will see more employers from a wide range of industry sectors investing in the young people of Wales by offering apprenticeship places."

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by Jane Hutt AM
(Minister for Business and Budget)

Wales has a very successful all-age apprenticeship programme, which has seen an increase in the number of apprentices from 13,100 in March 1999, to 26,480 in July 2008.

A new dedicated apprenticeship unit has been established in the Welsh Assembly Government to better coordinate and promote apprenticeships in Wales and provide the coordination point for initiatives designed to stimulate greater involvement of employers in apprenticeships.

The unit is working with local partners, such as the Sector Skills Councils and Careers Wales to tackle barriers to participation and support employer engagement.

The importance of skills development was highlighted this week at the well-attended Vale economic forum at the Copthorne Hotel.

Pathways to Apprenticeships provides a flexible route for young people to acquire the underpinning knowledge and skills that would be required for successful completion of a full apprenticeship framework.

Five Sector Skills Councils have developed programmes of qualifications to meet their industry requirements; SEMTA (engineering) Habia (hairdressing & beauty) Construction Skills (construction) People 1st (hospitality) and summit skills (plumbing, electrical installation, domestic heating and ventilation.)

Nineteen colleges, including Barry College, are currently participating under the pathways to apprenticeships programme, with 1,777 confirmed places across Wales.

Finally, The young recruits programme provides targeted support to create high quality apprenticeship places with employers for young people aged between 16 and 24.

Since the launch of this initiative, more than 350 application forms have been sent to prospective businesses wishing to access funding for taking on a Young Recruit.

With our commitment to providing opportunities for young people to continue in education, training and to progress to skilled employment, Apprenticeship Week Wales is certainly a showcase to be proud of.

COMMUNITY NEWS
ST BRIDES MAJOR
Your local correspondent is
Patricia Bevan-Morgan
(01656) 880418

OGMORE BY SEA Retired Residents Association met at The Watermill on Thursday to listen to an interesting talk about the origins of toys.

The chairperson for the afternoon was Kath. Happy birthday was sung for life-long member Peggy Oaks, whose birthday was on February 8.

The next meeting will be a film show of a cruise to the Baltic.

LADIES Thursday Club met to wish a fond farewell to member Dorothy Furnace, who is leaving for pastures new after living in the village for 46 years.

She and husband are going to live in Clevedon to be nearer their daughter.

Husband Albert voluntarily wound the church clock for many years before its automation, no mean feat climbing the stone steps to the belfry, for which we thank him.

Good luck to them both in their new home.

THE local Poppy organiser, Mrs Marion Lewis, would like to thank all who contributed to the Poppy Appeal 2009, making a grand total of £829.

ON Sunday, February 7, a day of celebration of the local patrol saint was marked with a traditional parish lunch at the church hall.

A big thank you to all who contributed to the superb feast, which was enjoyed by all.

IT is good to hear that Catrin Clements is home and making good progress after her recent stay in hospital. We wish her a speedy full recovery.

MOTHERS' Union extra – The 'Royal Garden Party' will be held on Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day), February 16 at the church hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

EWENNY Community council is anxious for the public to know that the Ewenny Hall is available for bookings.

The hall is available to hire at competitive rates. Please ring the caretaker on 01656 648814 for details.

This Grade 1 listed building, once the village school, has, since the 1950s, been used as the village hall and is a very useful amenity.

It is hired for classes in ballet, Kung Fu, kick boxing, Women's Institute, University of the Third Age, the local shoot lunches, as well as private parties.

There is a main hall with kitchen and toilet facilities, and also two smaller meeting rooms on the first floor and good car parking at the rear.

Bookings can be taken for regular dates or single bookings.

Daughter's cry for help over father's death

Hedley Lewis.

THE daughter of a former Aberthaw power station worker, who died from the industrial disease, mesothelioma – cancer of the lining of the lungs – is searching for his co-workers, or their relatives, who may have been similarly affected.

Mr Hedley Lewis, known as 'Eddie' to his friends, died in 2007 at the age of 74, having lived in Llwynypia all of his life. He worked for Crompton Parkinson at the Aberthaw site as a labourer from 1960 until 1961. Mr Lewis was based at the 'A station', working in underground tunnels.

His role involved drilling holes in the cement lining of the tunnels, in order to erect metal racking to support the power supply cables. It is thought that he was also involved in installing cables within the tunnels, as well as drilling the tunnels themselves and digging trenches.

His family is calling for anyone with information to get in touch.

Mr Lewis's daughter, Helen Griffiths, is keen to raise awareness of the symptoms and impact of Mesothelioma.

She explained: "The symptoms associated with mesothelioma – such as shortness of breath and chest pains – are very distressing and to see someone you love having to endure such pain is particularly upsetting."

Anyone with information is asked to contact her solicitor, Jeremy Brooke, on (01142) 41 3973, or Kim Atherton of Asbestos Diseases UK on (0115) 927 5108.

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Vale rallies to Haiti appeal

LAST week, Indian restaurants and take-aways across the Vale who collected donations and gave part of their takings towards the Haiti Earthquake Appeal, were thanked by Disasters Emergency Rescue Cymru, at an event in the Senedd with British Red Cross and Christian Aid.

Jane Hutt AM said: "I was delighted to visit six restaurants and take-aways on January 27 to congratulate them on their fundraising efforts as part of Islamic Relief. I will also be taking part in a Christian Aid-sponsored walk on February 12."

The walk in Barry, on Friday (February 12) at 7pm, is starting at All Saints Church.

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'FLYING VET' NOT GUILTY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The judge said Mr Kirk had to have time to cool down. The judge insisted there came a time when the dignity of the court had to be maintained.

Mr Kirk once called the judge "a b*****d" when he stopped him cross-examining a police officer.

The judge warned him: "Be very careful."

The judge also admonished a woman who was laughing in the public gallery.

"You find this case amusing," said the judge.

"It is not amusing and if you continue, you will be asked to leave."

• *Mr Kirk had been held in custody for almost eight months at Cardiff Prison. He was arrested in June of last year and first remanded on bail by Barry Magistrates. The police appealed against this decision and he was then remanded to Cardiff Prison.*

While there, he was sent for assessment at a Bridgend psychiatric unit.

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Litter, litter everywhere... DOESN'T ANYONE CARE ABOUT THIS EYESORE?

OPEN your eyes as you drive around the Vale...Look at our hedgerows and verges and try to find somewhere that is not covered in litter.

Take a journey in any direction from Cowbridge and it's a challenge. From Cardiff to Bridgend the A48 looks like a landfill site.

Ystradowen at one time used to win Best Kept Village – now from Cowbridge to Talygarn the road serves as a place to display the plastic packaging that our food industry churns out with abandon.

A surprisingly large number of people are content to throw their crisp packets and drinks bottles out of their car windows. Try to imagine this situation in Germany, Switzerland, France or Canada (merely exemplars, I'm sure you can think of many more).

What was once a nuisance has become an embarrassing disgrace. Ten years ago it didn't look like this, so how has it changed?

Firstly, of course, it is symptomatic of a greater societal problem; a decline in standards. The majority of people simply don't care; if they did, it wouldn't be like this.

To predict what it is going to be like in the near future, take a walk past Cowbridge School. Don't let the building site be an excuse, it was like it before the works started. I once asked a senior member of staff why it is tolerated? The response was not particularly encouraging. This new generation of citizens will think litter is normal and acceptable.

Secondly, we have an inept recycling policy in the Vale. We are told by VOGC to put our plastic recycling in carrier bags as they refuse to supply bags (unlike Rhondda Cynon Taf) for the purpose.

In the infinite wisdom of our council, these are then collected in an open caged truck, resulting in the contents of these bags blowing out of the back and into the countryside.

On a windy day, you see complete carrier bags of carefully-washed plastic blowing around, spilling their contents for all to admire.

Then we have the total lack of visible services in the Vale. While I acknowledge that the root cause is the slovenly behaviour of the litter louts, it does not help that it is never cleared up. This sets a standard of toleration.

In RCT you regularly see litter pickers at least trying to make the place look respectable. The only consolation for the Vale is that Bridgend is far worse, but we're catching up fast.

Now I am told that this is one of the prices we pay for a free and liberal society; I am not convinced by this argument. I have also been told that it doesn't matter; there are bigger problems in the world.

I regularly have visitors on business from abroad and arrange for them to stay in Cowbridge, so that they can enjoy some of the many restaurants and pubs in the town. Frankly I am tired of making excuses and finding answers to questions like, "*Why is your country such a mess?*"; "*why do people here care so little for where they live*"; "*I never expected Wales to look like this, why is it so dirty?*". Answers on a postcard, please!!

Perhaps the worst road in the area is the link road from the M4 to Cardiff Bay, a major artery into our capital city. This road is used by our AMs every day as they travel to the Senedd. They clearly don't care; so what hope is there?

I Hopkin, Aberthin

FOOTNOTE:
Do you have a view on this or any other local issue?
Email your letters to ggem@internet-today.co.uk or post to Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL. (Please include full name and contact details on all correspondence).

What will council do about potholes?

DRIVING around the Vale since the beginning of the year has been more like driving on the moon, given the number of 'craters' on the road surfaces.

Can the Vale Council inform the public when these roads will be properly repaired; it is no good simply filling in the offending holes, as the problem will simply rear its head again in several months' time.

The roads are in the worst state that I can recall. Since the beginning of January, I have had to replace two tyres on my car. Who knows how many other people have suffered similar problems?

The lack of visible action on this matter is disconcerting and it's no wonder people feel disenfranchised with the present council.

(Name and address supplied)

Defence Academy: 'estimated figures'

SO we are "past the point of no return" on the MoD Defence Academy, claims our outgoing MP.

We were past the point of wasting millions when the Red Dragon hangar went ahead and what a waste of money that proved to be. It seems everyone knew there was no work, except those pushing the deal.

I for one don't think the government should spend any money on the contract until it is signed. Metrix and the private sector involved should (until signed) foot the bill. After all, the taxpayer is footing enough bills in the next few years.

It seems everyone in the government went to the same 'Maybe School' as all the recent figures from the Ministry of Defence state estimated figures.

Vickey Way, Picketston

Barry Comprehensive School marks 50 years on Port Road

'Opportunity to Succeed!'

Local school's anniversary arrives as it celebrates its record GCSE results...

The school's new cycle shelter is an example of how the school has developed its facilities in recent years.

Pupils have joined the school from around the globe.

... and the best is yet to come!

BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL has a history of being at the forefront of progressive education in Wales – and it is now celebrating 50 years on the Port Road.

The story of secondary education in Barry goes back to October1886, when the Barry County School opened its doors to 110 boys and girls who had been granted scholarships on passing the eleven-plus examination.

At that time, the school stood at the top of the Buttrills – and is now the Old College Inn.

By 1960, when the school opened at the present site at Port Road, more than 750 pupils were being educated under the headship of Mr Leslie Mathews.

In 1964, the time was ripe for the introduction of comprehensive education and this was when Barry Boys' Comprehensive School began, and a new era opened in the history of secondary schooling in the town.

Mr Teifion Phillips succeeded Leslie Mathews as head in 1971, and supervised the period during which the school leaving age was raised from 15-years-old to 16, as well as the introduction of mixed ability teaching.

'Opportunity to succeed'

Mr Courtney Rice, who became head in 1981, continued the modernisation of the school, with the introduction of new technology in the form of VCRs and computers, and oversaw the transition from O-Levels to GCSEs.

Mr Mike Griffiths then became head in 1991 and steered the school through the changing educational landscape of the 90s – the advent of parental choice, the growth in Welsh medium education and league tables.

These all signified that the school was now a competitor in the educational market.

Mr David Swallow took up his headship in January 1998, having previously been head of Wellacre School in Trafford, Manchester.

The school dropped 'Boys' from its title to reflect the coeducational sixth form, and a new badge and an aspirational motto, 'Opportunity to Succeed', were introduced.

It is very appropriate as the school enters its 50th year at the Port Road site, that it has recently achieved its best-ever GCSE results, with 81 per cent of pupils achieving five or more A* - C grades – the highest in the locality!

Many former pupils and staff have already expressed an interest in joining the current staff and pupils for the 50th anniversary celebration this summer.

If you would like to be involved, email the school at barrycs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or find us on Friends Reunited.

The school's production of Les Miserables.

***RIGHT:** Pupils launch balloons in support of National Anti-Bullying Week.*

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Freeman and Damon are superb in Invictus

ASK most women about sport and they'll say it's simply an excuse for men to go down the pub, get worked up over nothing, or to avoid the joy that is Saturday afternoon shopping.

However, ever so often, a sporting moment transcends its origins and is something spectacular and unforgettable. One such moment was South Africa's victory in the 1995 World Cup, winning the Webb Ellis Trophy mere months after Nelson Mandela's election as president began the arduous process of bringing a racially segregated country back together again.

It is a story worthy of the cinema screen, and one that Clint Eastwood has brought to life in *Invictus*.

Morgan Freeman plays Mandela, whose desire to see his country repair itself after apartheid manifests itself in the hope that his country can achieve success in the 1995 rugby World Cup, held in South Africa.

Meeting with team captain Francois Pienaar (Matt Damon), Mandela instils in him the belief that victory can be more than just a panacea for the country's ills, and Pienaar attempts to ensure the team win the hearts and minds of a nation...

In terms of perfect casting, there is nobody else who has the gravitas to portray Nelson Mandela on the big screen other than Morgan Freeman; yet it's one thing to say that he would be superb, but another for him to actually take the role.

It is a task, however, that Freeman is more than up to, and heads up a raft of impressive turns that makes *Invictus* a moving and highly absorbing piece of work.

Adapted from John Carlin's *Playing The Enemy*, it is a film that takes an even-handed look at the events that unfolded in the time period, while its snapshot nature gives the film pace that is unburdened by much in the way of back story.

Certainly, Mandela's life is one that would make an excellent film, but the story here is one that is pivotal to the rebirth of South Africa, as much about bringing a country together as it is about Mandela himself.

The film does its best to portray Mandela as humanly as possible - one character even says that he is "... not a saint, he is a man" – and points out some of his failings as well as praising him, with Eastwood keen to keep the film nicely balanced, something that he is successful at doing.

The veteran director is maturing with age superbly, and this film maintains the hot streak he has been on in the last few years.

Visually, the film looks beautiful – the South African landscapes and townships shot with a real eye for detail. Eastwood subtly impresses upon the viewer the racial divide present in the country without ever being too blunt or hamfisted about it, although the tone does become a touch mawkish as the film makes its way to the conclusion

He also draws superb performances from his cast, led superbly by both Freeman and Matt Damon. The former captures the dignity and personality of Mandela, but gives substance to what could so easily have become impersonation.

With a sparkle in his eye, Freeman delivers a turn that is more than worthy of his Academy Award nomination and his measured nobility is a perfect fit for Mandela.

Damon is given the shorter shrift as regards character, with Pienaar having little in the way of drive until the film shifts gears into the World Cup, but his performance is one of quiet conviction and determination, looking and sounding the part and delivering a degree of emotional heft, as and when the script calls for it.

While the film is more or less built around the two leads, the supporting cast all fit in place superbly, and provide fine support for the main actors to wield their magic.

The film isn't a flawless piece of work by any stretch, with the story lacking any political edge, concentrating instead on the build-up to the tournament. While that isn't a bad thing, you can't help but feel a touch more politics would have given the film a little more depth and drama.

Similarly, the final third finds itself in the sports movie cliche of the underdog overachieving, and not even a director as masterful as Eastwood could wring much in the way of tension from the hugely dull final between South Africa and New Zealand.

But ultimately the film succeeds in achieving what it sets out to do – to highlight the emergence of a reunited country and the impact both Mandela and the country's victory had; coupled with the excellent turns from Freeman and Damon, *Invictus* is a highly-compelling piece of work.

VERDICT – Winning performances from Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon, and another directing success for the evergreen Clint Eastwood, *Invictus* is a film that maintains your attention throughout.

It may lack a degree of bite, but the strength and power of the story sees it through to the end. *Recommended*.

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

Vale Resort named as UK's 'best family-friendly' hotel

THE Vale Resort has been named as the UK's best family-friendly hotel, at a prestigious UK industry awards ceremony held in London.

The Vale Resort scooped the Hotel Excellence Awards 2010 award for the 'Best Large Family Friendly Hotel in the UK'.

The four-star luxury resort has put families high on the agenda and has established itself as a market leader in offering innovative, fun-filled family breaks that make the most of its expansive 650-acre parkland location.

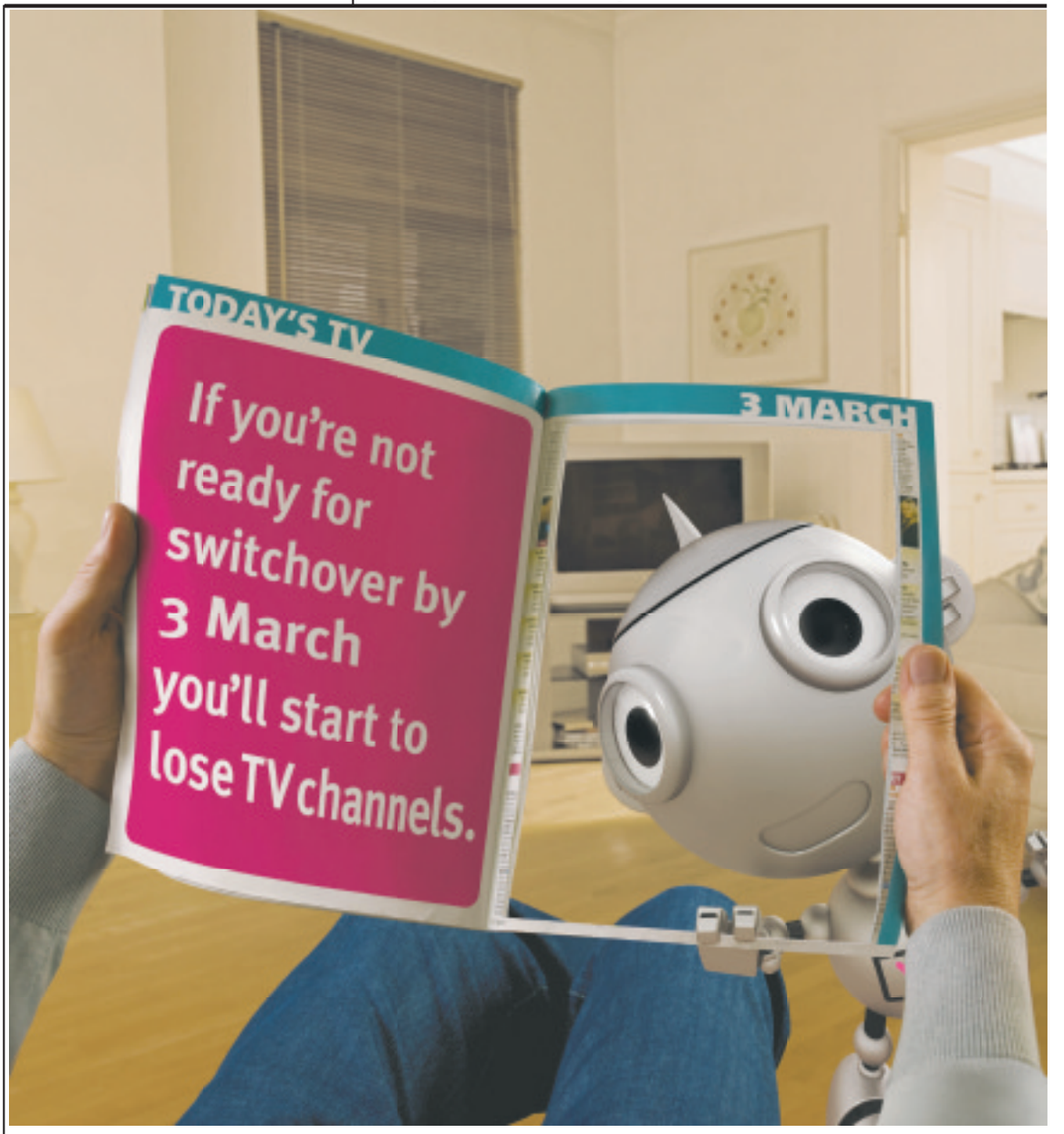
One of Wales' "most successful leisure and hospitality businesses", the Vale Hotel, celebrated its 10th anniversary two months ago.

The £50million hotel resort opened its doors to its first hotel guests in November 1999.

It has now played host to a staggering 750,000 hotel guests during its first decade in business.

Ben Danielsen, general manager of the Vale Resort, commented: "We are delighted to have achieved this independent benchmark from the industry in recognition of the genuine focus and priority we place on family friendly holidays and short breaks.

Left to right: Travel industry expert and TV travel pundit Simon Calder with Stephanie Metson, marketing manager, Vale Resort, and Emma Pegler, childcare manager.



On 3 March any TV that is not ready to receive a digital signal will start losing channels at switchover – BBC Two will be the first to go. Then on 31 March the remaining analogue channels will be switched off and the rest of the digital services launched.

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New police commander for Vale and Bridgend

Chief Supt Carl Davies.

A NEW Commander, Chief Supt Carl Davies, has been appointed at the Central division of South Wales Police, which covers Bridgend and the Vale.

A native of Aberdare, Mr Davies began his 30-year career on the beat in his home town and he has worked in every division of the South Wales force.

Mr Davies was deputy divisional Commander for Cardiff in 2007 and 2008, before becoming head of call and incident management, which included police communications across the entire force region, as well as playing a leading role in the Wales-wide roll out of the '101' non-emergency telephone number.

As Divisional Commander, he is supported by Supt Liane James in the Vale of Glamorgan area and Supt Steve Furnham in Bridgend.

He said: "I am passionate about policing and confident that we can continue to make our communities even safer places to live, work and visit.

"If people have an issue in their area then I would encourage them to contact their local officer.

"We are here to keep the people and neighbourhoods of Bridgend and the Vale safe, and we will aim to do that by dealing robustly with criminals and supporting our communities."

Dogs Trust offers a lasting Valentine's relationship with Belle

THE Dogs Trust in Bridgend is offering a Valentine 'date' that will definitely lead to a lasting relationship.

Faithful, cute and remembering to send you a Valentine's card, sponsor dog Belle is looking for the perfect partner this February 14.

Just £1 a week will help provide food, bedding, affection and veterinary care for a chosen Dogs Trust sponsor dog.

In return, you will not only receive regular news from them in the form of letters, Valentine and Christmas cards, but also a certificate in your name and regular copies of the Dogs Trust magazine *Wag*!

Dogs Trust Bridgend manager Beverley Price said: "Belle is a four-year-old West Highland White who was handed over to Dogs Trust Bridgend following a family split. Sadly, because she is very scared of other dogs and people, she can't be rehomed. However, she has recently made friends with a terrier called Benji, which is a giant step for Belle.

LEFT: Belle.

"Belle has skin allergies, so she needs regular medicated baths, but this isn't a problem because she loves them. She's a bit of a tomboy and likes getting her coat muddy, especially when she's playing football with Benji.

"Belle is currently taking her 'Good Citizen' bronze award, which involves lots of training. She loves it and it has really increased her confidence levels."

She added: "Sponsoring a dog is an ideal way to care for a dog, even if you can't have one yourself.

"Many sponsor dogs can be visited and you can even send them special treats and gifts.

"There are lots of lovely dogs to choose from, so if you would like to find out more about sponsoring a rescue dog from Dogs Trust, then simply call 020 7837 0006 and set it up on the phone, or go to our website at www.sponsoradog.co.uk . ***Note:*** *Unfortunately Belle cannot be visited by her sponsors.*

Spring fair in Paget Rooms

THERE will be a spring fair in the Paget Rooms, Penarth, from 10.15am-12noon on Saturday, February 13, in aid of Cancer Research UK Cymru.

Admission is 50p, which includes tea/coffee and biscuits. There will be stalls with cakes, cards and paper, savouries, preserves, tombola and white elephant.

Penarth Computer Club – it's progress of a sort

SOME 20 years ago, when a personal computer filled a desk; cost thousands of pounds and held tiny memories and miniscule storage capacity, a colleague said he would buy one when they cost no more than £200 and could be held in his hands.

We are now just about there. Everything has changed. The price is not quite down to £200, but getting close; hand-held certainly and with vastly more computing power and prodigious amounts of storage; superb pictures in 64 million colours, instead of just text in black and white.

The way we communicate with the computer used to be type-written instructions on a command line of text.

The user had to know the specialised language to get things done. The command-line user-interface, as it was called, made using a computer the domain of the highly skilled few.

Xerox designed the GUI (Graphics User Interface) using WIMPs (Windows, Icons, Mouse and Pointer) to make things easier. It made the home computing possible for us masses.

We learnt how to type with two fingers on a word processor that allows us to correct mistakes (as I am doing at this moment).

We can chop and change our work. On a typewriter we couldn't complete a page without mistakes.

We used to take a roll of 36 photographs during a holiday and throw away some that came out badly. Now we take hundreds and can tweak the results if we like.

We can send emails to the far side of the world and share news with family and friends. We can accumulate hundreds of friends on social web sites – thousands even.

We can search the millions of pages on the internet for information; shop on line; examine census records, bid at auctions or simply put forward our opinions on any subject.

We can store great volumes of our records on the internet or download music, films, and documents to store on our own machines.

For all these things we find we have learnt a range of skills to enable us to type; publish documents; crop, rotate, and generally improve pictures; create designs and much more.

After acquiring these skills, we find there are additional ones we need.

We need to be able to organise our filing systems for a start. That is a science by itself. (There is a records management section of the Society of Archivists)

With multiple computers, we must understand how a home network works and decide if it should be cabled or wireless or a mixture? Who has authority to access which files. Can they edit or delete them? What is the difference between a hub, a router or a switch?

Hang on! I thought it was supposed to be getting simpler. Mind you, the progress is fascinating to witness.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday February 23, when Kevin will be reviewing how to keep your computer safe from interference. Visitors and new members are always welcome. For more information telephone 029 2070 8439.

HD

BARRIVALE BRIDGE CLUB

THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge Club are as follows:

Tuesday, January 26.

First – Mark Roderick and Noelle Bond with 60.42 per cent.

Joint second – Jane Brook and Denis Mottram (59.58), and Tom Kendrick and Dave Thomas. Tom and Dave also won on handicap.

Tuesday, February 2. (Club mixed pairs championship, session one):

First – Graham Jones and Irene Thomas with 64.17 per cent.

Second – Huw Thomas and Celia Thomas with 55, and third – Betty Lewis and Denis Mottram (54.58).

Viv Liles and Hilary Lawrence won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information telephone 01446 733425.

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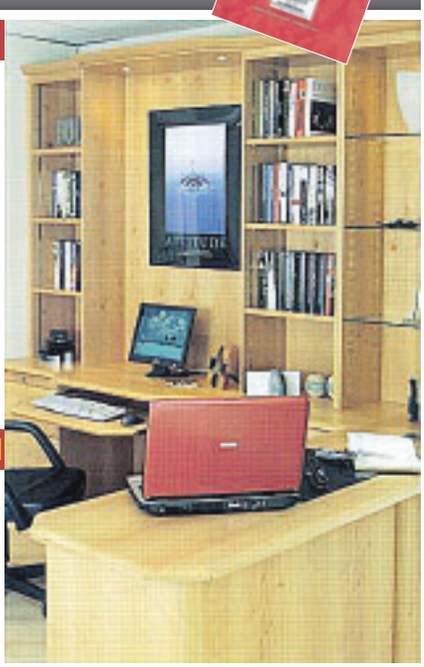

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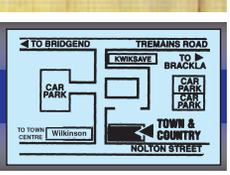

Safety the aim as new work starts on Docks Link Road

ABOVE: Six weeks of work has begun on the Docks Link Road to improve safety.

MAJOR work has started on the Barry Docks Link Road, which has a history of serious accidents.

In one major incident last year, a 20-year-old local man was killed in a collision.

Paul Gay, operational manager for engineering design for the Vale Council, confirmed that work on the northbound kerb line at the junction of the link road and Coldbrook Road East began at the beginning of February.

He said: "The first action, before construction works can start on site, is to set out traffic management facilities to provide a safe working space for the contractor.

"The works have been designed by the council's engineering design division and are being undertaken by the council's highway maintenance division.

"Under this scheme, the kerb line will be realigned and road markings and surfacing will be enhanced to improve highway safety at the location," Mr Gay explained.

(See letters page 2)

CAMPAIGNERS WELCOME LOCAL FLOOD DEFENCES FUNDING BOOST

***RIGHT:** Steve Blakeman and Marilyn Brown have welcomed the news that Barry will get more funding to alleviate the danger of flooding.*

A BARRY couple who campaign on flooding issues in the town have welcomed news that £997,000 will be spent on the 'Coldbrook catchment scheme'.

Steve Blakeman and his partner Marilyn Brown suffered the anguish of their home in Redberth Close being flooded in 2007.

Marilyn said: "At the time it was 100 per cent devastation. The internal walls came down and the house was one big shell.

"There was £50,000 worth of damage which had to be rectified."

Steve added: "At the time, 60 houses in five wards were affected. We had to go and live in Taffs Well for six months!"

Work was carried out to nearby culverts and drains, resolving Steve and Marilyn's problem, but since then the couple have campaigned to ensure that other areas of Barry don't suffer the same fate.

Steve said: "We welcome the new funding for Barry and the Coldbrook watercourse. This should have happened a long time.

"Rainfall is not really the issue – maintaining drains and culverts is."

Marilyn said they hoped the new scheme would provide extra protection from flooding for the people of Cadoxton.

The Welsh Assembly has told the Vale Council that its application for European funding of £450,000 has been successful – match funding will take the cost of the Coldbrook scheme up to £997,000.

The Vale Council operational manager for engineering design, Paul Gay, said: "The funds will be used to undertake feasibility studies, project appraisals, and the design and construction of works, should these prove appropriate.

"The council will work with partners and stakeholders in the area to improve infrastructure, identify flood resilience works to further protect property and involve the public in flood awareness activities.

"Action will also be taken to improve flood warnings and to prepare a Flood Risk Management Plan."

Jane Hutt, the Vale's AM, welcomed the injection of funding.

"After the devastating floods which swept through large parts of Barry in 2007, it is good news to hear that the Coldbrook flood alleviation project has been allocated £450,000 of European Union Funding to help safeguard the area from further flooding."

Plaid Cymru candidate for the Vale, Dr Ian Johnson, also welcomed the anti-flooding funding.

He said: "Many parts of Barry were subject to serious flooding in July 2007, largely due to the overflowing of the Coldbrook culvert which runs from near the Colcot and Gibbonsdown down the hills to Coldbrook, flooding houses off Lydstep Way, Willows Crescent, around Daniel Street and Heol-y-Nant, as well as impacting on schools such as St Richard Gwyn, Oakfield and Gwaun y Nant.

"I was present at a very tense meeting in November of that year where the affected residents expressed their frustration with the council that more hadn't been done to prevent the flooding from taking place.

"I am glad that, finally, the funding has been approved, which means that action will be taken to stop the culvert overflowing in future, and welcome the Assembly's commitment to a national Welsh strategy for flood management in future."

News in and out of the classroom at Barry Comprehensive School

Matt Williams gives wannabe DJs some expert tuition.

DJ SESSION

BUDDING DJs at Barry Comprehensive School were given expert tuition recently by Matt Williams, a youth worker and a member of the Salvation Army.

"Demand for the session was considerable and as a result more have been arranged. It is good to work with the young people and we had a very successful session," Matt said.

Football session

BARRY Comprehensive recently hosted a FAW Trust initiative – '*Show Racism the Red Card*', organised by former West Ham United, Charlton Athletic, Fulham and QPR star Leroy Rosenior.

The year-7 football squad were waiting to play their quarter-final tie in the Cardiff Cup and were the lucky ones chosen to represent the school.

The initial part of the day saw the boys discuss their views and opinions regarding racism, both in a social and sports context, and they took the opportunity to quiz Leroy about his experiences of racism throughout his career.

Leroy Rosenior puts the boys through their paces in a training session.

Mr Ingle and the squad were very interested to hear about strategies used to show racism the 'red card'.

In particular, Callum Parker and Elliott Jackson asked some very good questions that impressed Leroy immensely. The squad watched a DVD in which Premiership stars Rio Ferdinand and Joe Cole were joined by other celebrities, such as Gary Lineker, to promote the belief that racism has no place in football or society as a whole.

The boys were later given a training session by Leroy, before finishing with a five-a-side tournament.

The afternoon ended with prizes presented by Leroy to the whole squad for their contribution throughout the workshop.

AC

Bryn Hafren pupils celebrate the new year

PICTURED (above) are members of Form 7DY at Bryn Hafren who prepared a special assembly to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

"The pupils had great fun researching and gathering information about the Chinese culture, heritage, and language," a school spokesman said.

Local Brownies on a tour of the Senedd

South Wales Central AM Chris Franks, recently took Dinas Powys Brownies on a tour of the Senedd at Cardiff Bay.

Afterwards, he reported: "They were extremely well-behaved and a credit to their parents and the group's leaders.

"Brown Owl, Alison Hubbard, and her team do a tremendous job for the young girls of the community.

"I know they work really hard at fundraising and there is good parental support. The Brownies are a real community asset."

AM sees ProAct scheme in action

VALE AM Jane Hutt recently met the Dow Corning apprenticeship team with manager, David Ott, to welcome Welsh Assembly financial support under the pioneering ProAct scheme.

The scheme has supported businesses upskilling their work forces as part of the drive to lead Wales out of the recession.

Ms Hutt said: "It was great to meet the Dow Corning apprentices who were motivated and enthusiastic about their skills and opportunities.

"They are a credit to the company and an inspiration for young people seeking the growing apprenticeship routes in Wales."

'Power of water' is theme of local artists' exhibition

BARRY artists Steven Miller and Nicala Helliger have opened their first joint exhibition at the Travellers Gallery, Barry Station.

The work of both artists celebrates the power and beauty of the waters inland and around the coast of Wales.

Steve Miller wants his paintings "to show the beauty of our natural environment, with its cascading waterfalls, lagoons, tidal systems, and standing water."

Nicala Hellinger adds that her ceramics "are meant to represent the strength and force, and also the fun and joy of water in our lives."

Steve's colourful paintings and Nicala's richly textured ceramics will be on view at the Travellers Gallery, Monday to Friday, in the mornings, until March 26.

The Travellers Café is run by Mind in the Vale of Glamorgan.

For more information, ring 01446 730792 or look on the website www.mindinthevale.org.uk

Read your GEM online at barry-today.co.uk

Children's Choices

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Just Learning nursery receives 'glowing report'

THE Just Learning nursery in Bridgend has received a glowing report from The Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales.

The report is designed to reassure parents and carers that the nursery education and care their children receive is of acceptable quality, and that any weaknesses are swiftly addressed.

The report noted that the 'children were seen to be well settled and happy' and staff interaction with children was good.'

Jonathan Bell, managing director of Just Learning, said: "To receive independent verification and acknowledgement of the quality of care and education and professionalism of our staff is excellent recognition for the nursery."

Just Learning is one of the UK's leading nursery operators. Founded in 1996, the company now operates 74 nurseries in Wales and England, offering high quality care for babies, toddlers and pre-school children in a structured nursery environment.

Please contact Melanie Thomas, nursery manager, Just Learning Bridgend on 01656 649644.

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21st year of Scallywags...

SCALLYWAGS is looking forward to another exciting season. An explosion of colour is due to arrive in store and there really is something for everyone!

We are always on the lookout for something different for our customers.

The 2009 additional ranges included the award-winning Bonnie Baby, the perfect new-born gift, and the Danish brand No-Nonsense, a lovely, easy to wear collection for girls aged six-14 years, produced by Sandwich.

Our ever-popular collections from Catimini, Oilily, Kenzo, Timberland and Jean Bourget and the fantastic spring Lelli Kelly collection will be with us very shortly.

We're just by the Town Hall car park bridge.

There is so much more to discover at Scallywags. Yanna and Ceri look forward to seeing you soon.

☎ 01446 772104
2 Willow Walk, COWBRIDGE
(Situated near Town Hall Car Park Bridge)

Solve children contact issues

HOLIDAY time is upon us again. This can often lead to arguments between parents about contact arrangements.

In an ideal world, children should be able to enjoy quality time with each of their parents, but if this is proving impossible in your case, then you should seek the help of a family lawyer, preferably a member of Resolution.

This group of family lawyers are specially trained to try and reach an amicable agreement on your behalf and can assist you in giving advice, information and support in trying to reach arrangements with your ex-partner.

Where this is not possible, they will then assist with processing the matter through the courts.

Don't miss out on your children!

Katie McColgan, Partner, Berry Smith, telephone 01656 645525; email kmmcolgan@berrysmith.com

HAVING PROBLEMS OVER CONTACT WITH YOUR CHILDREN?

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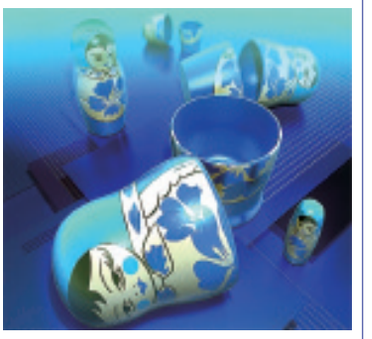

Then speak with Katie McColgan, Marina Atherton, or Stephanie Murray of Berry Smith LLP, Brackla House, Brackla Street, Bridgend CF31 1BZ.

Tel 01656 645 525

Public Funding (Legal Aid) available

Enjoy a sporty half-term at the Vale's leisure centres

SNORKELLING, tag rugby, water polo and football are among more than 20 sports and activities that can be enjoyed during half-term at the Vale's leisure centres in Barry, Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Penarth.

Many of the activities cost as little as £1.If you are not sure which to choose, then why not go for five activities in one day at one of the 5x60 activity days being held at Llantwit Major Leisure Centre?

For only £5, 11-16 year-olds can get their five-a-day by having a go at badminton, dodgeball, table tennis, frisbee golf and futsal.

For full details, pick up a programme from your local leisure centre or go online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/leisurecentres.

'A Magic Place...'

MERLIN'S CASTLE is a well established family-run business. We cater for children from ages one to 10 years, with plenty of soft play, rope bridges, slides, tunnels, walkways and much more!

We specialise in children's birthday parties and offer various packages to suit your needs: hot or cold food, balloons, party bags, drinks, ice cream – all served in your party room.

Enjoy our popular laser parties – and now everyone can be a star at Merlin's – with its own stage, cameras and big screens to sing along to favourite songs.

We welcome various organisations, schools, nurseries, mother and toddler groups, Rainbows, etc.

Good hot and cold food is served in our café, so come and play – rain or shine.

Call soon: Unit 17, Ely Valley Business Park, Station Terrace, Pontyclun, CF72 9DZ; or please telephone 01443 228111.

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Children's soft play centre with ballpits, rope bridges, giant wavy slide, Labyrinth climb, spinny poles and much more.
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FREE PARKING AND CAFE
OPEN: Mon-Sun 10am onwards
Unit 17, Ely Valley Business Park, Station Terrace, PONTYCLUN (close to Pontyclun Station)
Telephone: 01443 228111

Lots of 'wobstacle' fun at Fontygary Leisure

FONTYGARY Leisure's new inflatable 'shiver me timbers' wobstacle will be up in the pool from 11am-1pm on Monday, Wednesday and Sunday during the half-term period, at a cost of only £3 per swim (free for three years and under).

This is proving to be very popular with the children and parents alike!We will be fully life-guarded Monday-Friday between the hours of 11am-6pm, and on the weekend between 9am-5pm. Children must be eight and over, and be able to swim at least two lengths of the pool to be unaccompanied.

Why not have a quick snack in our café, Litebites, after your swim?

We are also now enrolling for our next set of swimming lessons – so don't delay as places fill up very quickly!

Also calling all students! Our healthclub is offering monthly memberships at only £25 (payable at reception or by direct debit) with no contract to sign! This entitles you to the full gold membership!

Remember, this includes use of the pool, free weights room, cardio-theatre room, sunbed, sauna, steam room and jacuzzi. Come along and have a look – you will be pleasantly surprised!

For further details, telephone Jennie or reception on 01446 710386.

The new inflatable "Shiver Me Timbers" Wobstacle

Swimming Lessons Starting Soon!

Call now to enrol: 01446 710386

Children's Choices

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Ruckleys is the one-stop shop for all mothers

Welsh Costumes NOW in Stock

Spaciously set over two floors, Ruckleys stock everything you need for St David's day . . .

Ruckleys
98, Holton Road Barry CF63 4HJ
Tel: 01446 700006

WHILE Ruckleys is getting ready for the arrival of their new spring/summer range, take advantage of their massive sale.

All clothing is reduced by 50 per cent or more and now includes a three for two deal. All Lelli Kelly shoes and boots are now reduced and start from as little as £26.99.

Spaciously set over two floors, Ruckleys is offering all GEM readers 10 per cent off any Nursery Savings Club account opened between February 11-25.

Call in and browse the basement showroom with prams, pushchairs, Moses baskets, cots and nursery equipment.

If you are an expectant mum, why not open an interest-free loan to help pay for your little one's arrival?

Don't forget their fabulous St David's Day costumes for both boys and girls.

Open seven days a week, Ruckleys is truly the one-stop shop for mothers and mothers-to-be.

'Little Kickers' football fun for under-7s

FORMER professional footballer Damon Searle and his wife Andrea opened 'Little Kickers' two years ago and currently run 13 classes per week in the south Wales area.

Former Cardiff City player Kirk Huggins came aboard 18 months ago as lead coach and a valued member of the team, helping to expand the business.

Little Kickers is football tailored for pre-school boys and girls aged between two and seven-year-olds, incorporating simple concepts like colours, numbers, basic agility and co-ordination. At Little Kickers, the focus is very much on fun while learning valuable social skills like listening, sharing, taking turns and teamwork.

We are pleased to announce that Mega Kickers, for those aged five to seven, has opened in Barry, more classes to follow shortly.

Goal! LittleKickers

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In 1985, three people in Maesteg wanted to improve animal welfare and so Maesteg Animal Welfare Society (MAWS) was born.

MAWS is a small charity run entirely by volunteers – most funds are generated from our charity shop in 4 Church Street, Maesteg. Please come to see us if you are in the area (opposite the bus station).

Currently, we have an abundance of cats who are urgently in need of a new family or individual to care for them. We rehome many cats and dogs throughout the valleys, Bridgend and the Vale, and we are desperate for new homes.

Please contact 01656 721496 or 01656 653456 if you can offer a home.

Any donations, bric-a-brac or any unwanted items, please call our shop 01656 738977 or 01656 721496.

MAESTEG ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY

Kittens, young and older cats – All needing a new family!

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Tel: 01656 737827 or 01656 653456
www.maesteganimalrescue.co.uk
Anybody who wants clothes collecting, please contact the above telephone numbers

'Splash Cymru' says 'let us entertain you'

THE Vale of Glamorgan Youth Offending Service (YOS) is running holiday activities for young people in the Castleland and Gibbonsdown areas of Barry throughout all school holiday periods.

Funded for by the Youth Justice Board (YJB), the activity known as 'Splash Cymru' is a programme of events for 13 to 17-year-olds that run in the school holidays in Wales. It was launched in 2002 following the success of the Splash and Splash Extra programmes in England.

The Splash Cymru schemes are being targeted in the Communities First areas of Barry. The YOS Prevention Service over the past year has been successful in reducing the number of young people entering the criminal justice system.

Splash Cymru Schemes are designed and funded to complement this work and is designed to promote the work of the YOS and image of young people in the community.

By engaging young people in positive activities in the community during non structured time, young people are given the chance to engage in opportunities that they would not necessarily be able to have the chance to experience.

Future Splash activities will include Tall Ships experiences, outdoor pursuits, residential weekends and targeted programmes designed to engage young people with specific risk issues.

HALF TERM
Splash Community Fun Day
Friday 19th February 12pm – 5pm
Castleland Community Centre
Belvedere Crescent, BARRY
FREE Activities Open to all
VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG
ALL WELCOME

HR Cycles – cycle support and expert help

HR CYCLES, established in 1991 by Haydn Rees, is still racing along with Haydn at the top of his form.

He is backed up by Stuart Thom as service and spares manager (14 years with the shop), Tom David, mechanic and general sales, and the Sunday man Jolly Jack Robinson.

The shop specialises in giving friendly, expert service and advice, and quality repair work of all types, including wheel building and hydraulic brake systems at reasonable rates.

Both Stuart, who is old enough to know better, and Tom are also skilled BMX riders and can give knowledgeable advice on the best type of BMX bike to buy and how to ride it.

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Our products are certified to soil association organic standards.

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All this, plus free delivery!

For enquiries, please telephone 0845 600 2311 or go to www.riverford.co.uk

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SOIL ASSOCIATION ORGANIC
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or make up your own box from our range of veg, fruit, milk, eggs and much more (minimum order £12.50).
we also deliver meatboxes from £25
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call us on 0845 600 2311
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- Content is integrated in activities that touch every aspect of children's development across learning domains (social, emotional, physical, cognitive, musical, language).
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Children's Choices

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Huge range of products at Bumps 'n' Babies

IF you are having a baby, then call in and see us.

Here at Bumps 'n' Babies, we have a huge range of nursery goods on display from all the leading brands – such as Quinny, Bugaboo, iCandy, Babystyle, Maxi-Cosi and many more.

We will beat any price, although we usually don't need to, because we already have the best prices!

With plenty of parking outside the door, and less than five minutes from the M4 junction 36 (Bridgend Designer Outlet, formerly McArthur Glen) there is no reason not to.

Please call soon. Telephone 01656 725 429.

Homework club for 11 -16 year olds launched at Barry school

BARRY Island Primary School has launched a new after-school homework club for pupils aged 11-16, in partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Community Focused Schools (CFS), the Vale Youth Service, Barry and Bryn Hafren comprehensive schools.

The project is being funded until March 31, and a room has been kitted out with state of the art Apple Mac laptops, as well as comfortable and modern furniture.

A spokeswoman said: "Barry Island Primary School aims to serve the local community in as many ways as possible. The headteacher at Barry Island Primary School, Janet Hayward, and the deputy head, Ty Golding, are passionate about this youth provision on the Island.

"The club will be open for four nights a week (Monday-Thursday) from 3.30pm – 6pm, and will be staffed at all times."

The launch saw pupils attending from several Vale schools, including Barry Island Primary School, Bryn Hafren, Barry Comprehensive School, St Richard Gwyn, St Cyres and one member has signed up from Ysgol Maes Dyfan.

Local comprehensive school headteachers Phil Whitcombe and Dave Swallow, were invited to the launch and enjoyed looking around, talking to pupils and to other partners.

At the launch of the homework club – back left: Dave Swallow, Janet Hayward and Phil Whitcombe. Front: Pupils from Barry and Bryn Hafren comprehensive schools.

Music for Little Fingers

AT JPL Sound – The Barry Music Shop there is a huge selection of instruments sized especially for children.

For those who love SpongeBob, the shop stocks a variety of instruments with SpongeBob on them – including junior drum kits, half-size classical guitars, ukuleles and even 'Flying V' ukulele's and drum sticks.

Electric guitars are always popular and there are special offers on at the moment for half-size electric guitars – pink for the girls and black for the boys! They are also available as part of a pack, with amplifier, strap, lead and spare strings as well!

There is always a large variety of instruments such as recorders, percussion – tambourines, castanets, jingle sticks etc, as well as the more formal instruments, such as flute, clarinet and saxophone.

Call in any time to see our huge range of instruments and accessories.

Pendoylan School has an exciting future

IT is a very exciting time for Pendoylan School as we embark upon our new school build.

Building work is scheduled to commence around May/June and will comprise new classroom buildings and a new school hall.

Governors, staff and pupils are eagerly awaiting their new school, and have begun a history project – creating a school timeline from 1873 to 2010.

The children have been involved in research, interviews and discussions.

Much input has been given by the community in supplying a wealth of photographs and information, for which we are most grateful.

The fundraising committee in the school is busy planning a Summer Ball to launch the start of the new school.

It's all happenening at Pendoylan . . .

Children's
VALENTINE'S DISCO
Friday, 12th February

Parents, Friends and Children
TREASURE HUNT
Saturday 20th February

BAVARIAN NIGHT
Saturday, 26th February

Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School
Pendoylan, Vale of Glamorgan

He's off to...

– just minutes from J.34 of the M4

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Members of

Pets R Us has hundreds of great products to offer

PETS R US is a large two-storey store in Regent Street, just off Holton Road, Barry, and is an Aladdin's cave for people who want the best for their pets.

They have a large exotic pet section with reptiles, small animals and fish, plus an amazing selection of birds, cages, aviaries and pet beds on the upper floor.

Also available are full set-ups for your pets and all pet accessories.

Pets R Us are stockists of premium dog and cat food, with many great offers at competitive prices.

The in-store dog grooming and care service has proved very popular.

Now is the time to get your dog looking its best with a shampoo and clip.

The store also has an in-store qualified veterinary nurse, who can advise and help you with your pet's problems.

All the staff are pet owners, too!

For the friendliest, most helpful, most knowledgeable staff you could wish for, call in to Pets R Us, or telephone 01446 722228.

PETS 'R' Us and GROOMERS
THE ONE STOP SHOP FOR ALL YOUR PETS NEEDS
UPSTAIRS NOW OPEN
Specialist breed **ROYAL CANIN** 13kg Dog Food **£10 OFF RRP**
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Delivery service available
Visit our stall every week at Barry Tuesday Market
1a REGENT STREET
BARRY, CF62 8DS. 01446 722 228

The Stardust Amusement Centre 'rejuvenates' Barry Island!

ON the back of the success of *Gavin & Stacey*, Barry Island's rejuvenation continues, with Stardust Amusement Centre now providing 10 Pin Bowling and improved entertainments for all the family, at cheap prices.

With free parking (immediately to the right of the building) it could not be easier to have a fun family day out.

There is a special offer with The GEM for an introductory session of bowling for £1 per person for an hour with our advert, *Make sure you cut it out and take it with you!*

For a fabulous fun time, come along to Stardust Amusement Centre, Barry Island.

We look forward to seeing you!

Telephone 01446 722769.

10 PIN BOWLING
NOW AT **STARDUST**
BARRY ISLAND

This advert entitles you to our introductory offer of Bowling for £1 per person for a whole hour.
Valid until 31st March, 2010.
Group bookings are welcome for any occasion.

For further information,
please contact the team on 01446 722769
STARDUST - White's Cosy Corner, Paget Road, Barry Island, CF62 5TY

Out and About with The GEM

Celebrating the Chinese New Year at Art Central

A HOST of oriental activities are set to take place at Art Central, the Vale Council's exhibition space, as part of celebrations for this year's Chinese New Year.

To mark the official start to the Year of the Tiger, which begins on February 14, Art Central will be hosting a series of workshops that are suitable for all the family.

Between February 16-20, sessions such as Chinese calligraphy, painting, ribbon dancing and puppet making will be offer, all provided by expert artists.

Coun Anthony Ernest, the cabinet member for tourism and leisure, said: "The council aims to stage a wide-ranging series of exhibits to show the multi-cultural diversity of not only the Vale, but the wider area.

"Chinese New Year is a very special occasion for many in the south Wales area and our exciting programme of events aims to reflect and provide something of interest to all."

All workshops run between 11am-12.30pm and 2pm-3.30pm and are limited to a maximum of 20 per session (10 for the ribbon dancing sessions). Booking is essential for all workshops. You can download a booking form from www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/arts or collect one from your local library.

Full details of the workshops at Art Central are as follows:

Tuesday, February 16 – Chinese Calligraphy – With a history of four to 5,000 years, the art of calligraphy is an important part of Chinese culture attracting the attention of artists the world over.

Wednesday, February 17 – Qigong (or ch'i kung) 18+ years only – Qigong is an internal Chinese meditative practice which often uses slow graceful movements and controlled breathing techniques to promote the circulation of 'qi' within the human body, and enhance overall health. Learn how to let go of life's stresses in this workshop.

Thursday, February 18 – Chinese painting.

Friday, February 19 – Lantern making and mini dragon puppets – The last day of the celebrations is known as the 'lantern festival', and is celebrated at night with lantern displays and a parade. Have a go at making Chinese lanterns.

Saturday, February 20 – Ribbon Dancing – Chinese legend has it that Emperor Tang-Ming-Hwon once dreamed that he was in the moon palace with mystical beings singing and dancing in multi-coloured cloud-like long robes, which is recreated through this dance technique. Participants should wear comfortable clothes in which to dance.

For further information, contact: Joanna Brewer, Communications Coordinator, telephone 01446 709453; Email: jlbrewer@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Charity offers free advocacy surgeries

AGE Concern is providing a free advocacy surgery at its Barry Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, for local older people.

The advocate volunteer, Mr John Mason, visits the coffee shop on a monthly basis and the next dates are scheduled for February 18, March 18, April 22, and May 20, from 10am-12.30pm.

The service is available for people over 60 who have difficulty accessing various services and/or are not in a strong position to exercise their rights.

It provides information and support with the following issues:

- Residential, nursing and community care
- Health
- Housing
- Accessing services
- Writing letters and/or making telephone calls
- Representing individuals' wishes and/or negotiating with a third party agency

For further information, contact the Vale Advocacy Co-ordinator, Ana Phillips, on 01446 795632. Ana, John and other volunteers will also do home visits if appropriate.

Friendship group

A MONTHLY friendship group is held at the Age Concern Senior health shop in Holton Road, Barry, on the third Wednesday in the month.

The next meeting is to be held on February 17. Varied programme with talks on topics of interest, bingo, card making.

Meet at 2pm-4pm. Anyone over 50 is welcome. The cost is 50p, to include tea/coffee and cake.

Further information on 01446 400044 or 01446 747654.

Talk tells of Everest travels

THE Vale of Glamorgan Association of National Trust Members met in January and enjoyed an interesting talk given by Mr David Alan, on 'Trekking in the foothills of Everest'.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17 at 7.30pm in the Duke of Wellington, when the speaker, Mr David Harrison, will talk about 'Dylan Thomas Lives On'.

Membership of the association is open to any interested person who is a: paid-up member of the National Trust or National Trust for Scotland, or the spouse/partner of a life member, or a National Trust staff member or volunteer.

The annual subscription (payable on January 1) is: £7.50 for one National Trust member; £10 for two members; reduced to £3.75 and £5, respectively, for those joining after June.

A spokeswoman said: "In the spring and summer, there are trips to various National Trust properties, which are always most enjoyable. We welcome new members. So, why not come along to our February meeting?

For further information, contact the membership secretary on 01443 223230.

Ty Hafan lottery winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 604.

- **£2000:** 391945.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £2,000, was not claimed this week.**
- **£10:** 671915; 290921; 266013; 716653; 692608; 719654; 663889; 468581; 622687; 100400; 377417; 199899; 257000; 185774; 166301; 552948; 679993; 249513; 126750; 307645.
- **£5:** 671101; 834457; 424631; 334486; 616837; 648299; 115816; 497282; 811665; 114621; 810783; 579018; 556262; 139351; 332162; 423857; 755217; 328002; 497986; 391178; 568815; 197400; 822840; 898068; 707988; 215100; 106705; 736533; 381815; 808464; 282045; 573931; 701092; 731462; 444184; 858556; 114772; 279140; 818303; 324703; 638970; 673296; 278204; 614777; 298929; 823273; 658993; 346640; 668389; 797962; 295419; 195652; 745831; 847679; 717013; 198338; 319611; 249037; 486116; 539681.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

Charity bike ride for Ty Hafan children's hospice

ON March 18, 19, 20, Welsh Guards Reunited will be holding a charity cycle ride to raise vital funds for Ty Gobaith and Ty Hafan, the family hospices for young lives.

The cycle ride from Anglesey to Cardiff, will help children from all over Wales who attend hospices for essential respite care.

For more information on the Cycle Ride, contact Paul Morgan on 01708 502471, or Mandy Wakely on 01685 371024 (email paul@welshguardsreunited.co.uk or mwakely1a@aol.com).

St. John's-on-the-Hill School and Day Nurseries

A Word from the Head:

At St. John's we believe that education is much more than academic achievement. Widely recognised by experts, the importance of a rounded experience, provides a positive and useful education. We embody this ethos at St. John's ensuring all children in our care are given the best possible start to provide for the best possible future.

We understand and value every child for their individuality so our approach to childcare in the Nurseries reflects this philosophy. We want to make sure that each child is nurtured and their capabilities are fostered so that they enjoy school and build on their successes.

Children from 3 months to preschool age enjoy a relaxed, caring environment, surrounded by a fully qualified team. Our mission is to ensure that every single child is given the opportunity to realise their full potential, this process begins in the Nursery with children learning through play in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum for learning.

Children attending any of our three Day Nurseries are guaranteed a place in the Pre-Prep Department at St. John's in Tutshill, Chepstow, where they continue to learn in a number of different ways. They learn to swim in our own swimming pool, dance and act in the Hall, learn to count, read, use a computer with time outside of the classroom taking part in play, sport and exercise and learning about nature in our beautiful surroundings.

Family values are an integral part of life at St. John's. Our boarding house is family-run providing a real 'home from home'. Children learn to live, work, share and play together, learning how to grow up being kind and considerate to others. Having mentors in our older pupils is a natural way of learning this for our younger children.

Our senior school scholarship record speaks for itself. More than half of the children who leave us at the end of Year 8 do so with a scholarship to the senior school of their choice, testimony to our ability to prepare children fully for the next stage of their education.

St. John's welcomes children of all abilities and offers a range of scholarships and means-tested bursaries (up to 100%) to ensure that a wide spectrum of youngsters can enjoy the benefit of an independent preparatory school education.

The next Open Morning takes place in Tutshill, Chepstow on Saturday 27th February 2010 from 9.30am – 12 noon. All welcome. If you would like further details, please contact Mrs Anne Etchells, Registrar on 01291 622045.

E-mail: registrar@stjohnsonthehill.co.uk
or visit the website: www.stjohnsonthehill.co.uk

NEWS FROM THE POSITIVE IMAGE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

A bright sun not required – an object lesson for PIPS!

In the old days of the Kodak Box Camera the rule was that you took pictures on bright sunny days with the sun over your shoulder.

Today it is widely thought that to take great landscape pictures you have to either get up at the crack of dawn to catch that elusive early morning light, or sit, hanging around on top of mountains in the freezing cold, until after sunset.

Gareth Martin taught an important lesson when he made his first visit to 'PIPS' on February 4. You don't need bright sun for brilliant landscape pictures.

Many of Gareth's splendidly evocative landscapes were taken in that most unlikely of locations, Blaenau Ffestiniog, on dull cloudy days when you have very soft light and an absence of heavy shadows.

Soft light really brought out the colours of the landscape and it is amazing what colours there are in something like lichen on a slate fence!

There was also a splendid irony to the evening when Gareth demonstrated how a beautiful softly lit landscape, with an ominous cloudy sky, was even more effective in black and white or sepia.

Gareth also taught us the value using the lines created by fences, paths, railway lines and footprints to lead into a picture. A great tip everybody can use regardless of how modest or sophisticated their equipment.

PIPS members are grateful to Gareth for a very informative evening.

This evening, February 11, PIPS members are saying 'Thank-you' to the good folk of St Baruc's Church for the use of their lovely building by hosting the great 'How well do You Know Barry' quiz. The quiz ,devised as a fun evening for teams of families and friends, is based on images of familiar landmarks. Come along and find out how observant you really are. Tickets (£5 including raffle and refreshments) are available on the door.

'Just Pictures', an exhibition of members' work, which opened to the public at the Park Gallery, Victoria Park Cadoxton on Saturday, February 6, will continue until February 28. More details are available from John Greatrex on 07809 551465.

The next PIPS meeting, on February 18, will be the moment of truth, when members find out how well they did in meeting the challenge of finding three urban landscapes for an internal competition 'Three on a Theme'.

Positive Image Photographic Society meets at 7-30pm on alternative Thursday evenings at St Baruc's Church, Phyllis Street, Barry Island. New members will be made very welcome. Further details of the club and forthcoming events including forthcoming competition details are on the society's website at www.positiveimagebarry.org.uk.

DA

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

Listed Building Consent
Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00083/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Repair works to stable yard walls including re-rendering, stone repairs, repointing and resetting of copings and new gates to stable yard. Repairs to three chimney stacks within the stable yard. Installation of timber gates to walled gardens. Provision of a ramp access adjoining toilet area.
Location:/Lleoliad: Dyffryn Gardens, Dyffryn, Nr. Cardiff
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II*

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00084/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Extensions and alterations: Two storey extension to side including internal alterations to kitchen and two bedrooms. Single storey extension to rear - glass pavilion to provide additional living space.
Location:/Lleoliad: Old Rectory, Llandough, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Development that might affect the setting of a Listed Building
Datblygiad a allai effeithio ar amgylchedd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00081/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Extensions and alterations: Two storey extension to side including internal alterations to kitchen and two bedrooms. Single storey extension to rear - glass pavilion to provide additional living space.
Location:/Lleoliad: Old Rectory, Llandough, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting The Old Rectory, Grade II and Village Hall, Grade II

Development that might affect the setting of a Conservation Area
Datblygiad a allai effeithio ar amgylchedd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00079/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed extension
Location:/Lleoliad: Three Oaks, Church Road, Llanblethian, Cowbridge
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Affecting the Cowbridge with Llanblethian Conservation Area

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar- vog.planning-register.co.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995
GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF (TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

Application(s) that may be of General Public Interest
Ceisiadau a allai fod o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol i'r Cyhoedd

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00089/RES
Proposal:/Cynnig: Construction of a 12,000 bird free-range egg production unit
Location:/Lleoliad: Tyn-y-Caia Farm, Sutton Road, Llandow, Cowbridge

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk
Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i vog.planning-register.co.uk.

Dated: 11 February, 2010
Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 11 Chwefror, 2010
Rob Thomas
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Swyddfa'r Doc,
Dociau'r Barri,
Y Barri
CF63 4RT

THE NEW LADIES' CAPTAIN TEES OFF AT COTTRELL PARK

Judy James, Liz Overton and Andrea Caines with their prizes of umbrellas.

Margaret Thomas and Elaine Mais receiving their prize of handbags.

ON Thursday, January 21, in spite of the cold weather, there was a good turnout to see Lorraine Pointon-Bell drive off as the new ladies' captain – it was a very good drive but unfortunately a tree got in the way!

The ladies had put out flags where they thought the ball would drop. Patsy Smith was the nearest and won the prize.

RIGHT: Lorraine presenting a thank you present to outgoing captain, Margaret Thomas.

This was followed by a team Stableford competition which was won by Shirley Williams, Elaine Mais and Margaret Thomas, second Andrea Caines, Liz Overton and Judy James.

A meal followed which was enjoyed by all, then Lorraine thanked everyone for coming and supporting her. She then presented the prizes to the competition winners.

She gave a thank you present to the past ladies captain, Margaret Thomas – a new golf bag from all the lady members, and a photoframe from herself.

She then congratulated her on the success of the past year.

Lorraine said she was really looking forward to the season ahead and her year as captain.

CB

Men's forum learns about life in India

ON February 4, the Barry Men's Forum speaker was Dr Valerie Major.

She began her talk by informing members that shortly after qualifying as an anaesthetist, and while working in Llandough Hospital, she attended a lecture where the speaker opened her eyes to the possibility of working in a large missionary hospital in south India.

Dr Major, who was born in Cardiff, informed members of the forum that, from that moment on, she had devoted her life and skills to serving the people of that country. She laboured among the sick in one of the hottest parts of the subcontinent for nearly 30 years until retirement forced her to return to this country.

The missionary hospital she worked in had a total of some 2,000 beds and was responsible for a large teaching college as well. Her day would begin at 7.30am and often go on until late in the evening.

Members learnt that this large establishment in a rural area was largely financed by 'private' patients. Those in this category were only provided with quite spartan facilities in their single rooms, such as squat toilets.

However, the money they provided paid for those who were genuinely destitute to receive healing.

Dr Major gave fascinating descriptions as to how money was raised so that long-term care could be given. For instance, to mothers needing post-natal care over a long period.

These schemes ranged from brick-making (they would dry in the heat), to digging latrines and raising goats. If those needing help could rise to cow ownership, that would take them out of the poverty trap completely in an area far away from any large city.

The missionary hospital Dr Major devoted so many years of her life to was long established and worked under the auspices of The Church Missionary Society, but she stressed that it cared for patients and trained students of all faiths.

Meetings are held every Thursday at 10.30am. For further information telephone 029 2059 4881.

MAC TANNER

'Inspire' grant to help villages in Vale

A SCHEME offering support for renewal and development plans in Vale villages now has a maximum available £500,000 grant.

The 'Inspire' grant can be used to improve and develop local services, boost prosperity by developing village amenities and small scale capital investment.

If a community is looking to create a sense of place, improve a community space, then this grant could help.

The Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-2013 grant is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

Funding is administered by Creative Rural Communities, the Vale Council's rural regeneration initiative, and more information is available from Jane Williams on 01446 771958 or e-mail jewilliams@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Competition time at camera club

MARTYN Pinches paid a visit to Barry Camera Club on Friday January 29, to judge the January monthly competition.

He waded through the photographic offerings supplied by the members and, with a little difficulty, came up with a final selection to take the honours.

Although the colour print section was judged first, members were kept on tenterhooks to discover who had won until the end of the evening.

Rob Owen, Hugh Winnan and Brian Trego were all in contention but Martyn finally plumped for Brian to win.

Rob Owen made up for being pipped at the post in the colour section by winning the monochrome section, and John Harvey scooped the prize for the projected image.

The final placings were as follows:

Colour Print
1. Fuschia by Brian Trego
2. Damselfly by Hugh Winnan
3. Trees at Llyn Cynwch by Rob Owens

Monochrome Print
1. Misty Landscape by Rob Owens
2. (equal) Goshawk Feeding Time by Mark Lowen, Dracula's Lair by Edna Weldon-Davis
3. (equal) Domes by John Harvey, Eight Weeks To Go by Steve Durbin, Louisa by Mark Lowen, Homeward Bound by Brian Trego

Projected Image
1. Ethereal Roses by John Harvey
2. Raasay Sound by Brian Trego
3. Next Storm Coming by Steve Durbin

GF

If you love your home you'll love our valentine offer...

1% Selling fee for the next 14 instructions!*

*Available for a limited period only to the first 14 sole agency instructions from 11th February, 2010 until 28th February, 2010. Subject to a minimum fee of £1,500.

BARRY - WEST END

NEW

Trinity Street

Traditional terraced house with 2 receptions and 2 double bedrooms, kitchen and large first floor bathroom. uPVC DG, gas CH. Ideal for FTB or rental.

£104,950

BARRY - WEST END

NEW

Salisbury Road

Bay fronted terraced house with thru lounge and modern fitted kitchen (Jan 2010). 2 double bdrooms and first floor bathroom with shower. Gas CH, uPVC DG. No chain.

£124,950

BARRY

NEW

Court Road

Bay fronted end terrace with 3 receptions and 3 double bedrooms. Stunning refitted kitchen and 1st floor bathroom/shower. uPVC DG, gas CH and rear garden.

£144,950

BARRY

NEW

Cornwall Rise

Superbly presented semi with 2 separate receptions, extended refitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, shower room/wc and cloaks. Gas CH, uPVC DG, garage and hardstand.

£149,950

BARRY

NEW

Church-fields

Superb extended detached with 2 receptions, large kitchen/dining room, 5 bedrooms, refitted bathroom and en-suite. Gas CH, uPVC DG, garage and 4 car hardstand. Gardens.

£229,950

BARRY - WEST END

NEW

Pontypridd Road

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Family Notices

LECKIE
Gwylfa (Gwyl)

On February 4 at Velindre Hospital after a short illness, faced with courage and dignity, surrounded by his family, Gwylfa of Jenner Road, Barry.

Well-known and respected teacher in Cardiff and the Vale. Loving husband of Lesley, much-loved dad to Sara and Hannah, dear son of Gwenda and Clive. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son funeral home, Gladstone Road, Barry, until the funeral service on Thursday February 18 in the chapel at 10.15am. Afterwards, cremation at Coychurch 12 noon. Family flowers only. If desired, donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Dogs Trust Bridgend and Princess Margaret Ward, Velindre Hospital. At the family's request, please wear rugby jerseys or red attire.

REGAN
Reg

Katrena, Mandy and families wish to thank everyone for their kind words and support during our sad loss. Special thanks to the District Nurses who made Dad's last days comfortable and happy, Dr Goodfellow and Dr Stephen Jones for their patience and help, Father Pat for his Blessing, Rev Treharne for a lovely service, W James & Sons for their professionalism, and Rhoose Social Club for the tribute to Dad.

GRIFFITHS
Ruby Louise

On February 2nd peacefully at UHW, Cardiff, Ruby, aged 5 years, of Llantwit Major. Precious daughter of Kay and David, beloved sister of David, Richard, Ben, Donna and Takita and sisters-in-law Emma and Liz.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday February 12th, service 2pm at Tabernacle Presbyterian Church, Methodist Lane, Llantwit Major followed by interment in Llantwit Major Cemetery. Please wear bright colours. Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home.

Now dancing with the angels.

PRUCE
Olive

Peacefully on February 3rd at Springbank Nursing Home, Barry, Olive in her 101st year, formerly of Rhoose. Beloved wife of the late Albert, dearly loved mother of Clifford and daughter-in-law Barbara, much loved grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday February 15th, service 1.45pm at Porthkerry Church followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 3.15pm. No flowers by request, donations in lieu if desired to Cancer Research Wales, Velindre Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff.

Public Notices

LICENSING ACT 2003

JEREMY WILLCOCK has applied for the variation of a premises licence pursuant to Sections 34/37 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the following licensing activities at The Mount Sorrel Hotel, Porthkerry Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan.
The application is to vary the premises licence to provide live music, recorded music, performance of dance, dancing, each day of the week from 1200 hrs to 0230 hrs; the provision of late night refreshments every day of the week on 2200 hrs to 0230 hrs and the sale by retail of alcohol every day of the week from 1000hrs to 0300 hrs
This application also includes the removal of a number of converted conditions.
The application can be inspected at the Vale of Glamorgan Council Licensing Section, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU.
Any interested party responsible authority may make representations to the relevant Licensing Authority by March 10, 2010.
Any representation shall be made in writing.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application, the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction being £5,000.

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Ronald Howe & Brian Phillip Thomas trading as **H&T Haulage** *of* **The Croft, Brynna Road, Pencoed, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan CF35 6PD** *is applying for a licence to use* **Llandow Industrial Estate, Cowbridge, South Glamorgan CF71 7LD** as an operating centre for **2** goods vehicles and **2** trailers.
and to use
H&T Haulage, Lynwood, Brynna Road, Pencoed, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan CF35 6PD
as an operating centre for **1** goods vehicle and **0** trailers.
Owners or occupiers of the land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

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References required.
Write to Matthew Hunt, Filco Supermarket Ltd., 19 Boverton Road, Llantwit Major. CF61 1XZ

Part Time Bar Staff
For seasonal work
Apply in writing to:
Mark McIlveen, Fontygary Leisure Park, Fontygary Road, Rhoose, CF62 3ZT.
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VALE of GLAMORGAN
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NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
SECTION 119 HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO. 20 WELSH ST DONATS)
DIVERSION ORDER 2009

On the 21 January 2010 the Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert part of the public footpath as set out in the Schedule below.

A copy of the confirmed Order and Order map may be seen at the address below free of charge between 9.00am and 4.00pm on weekdays from 11 February 2010 until 25 March 2010. Copies of the Order and map may be bought here at a price of £5.50.

This Order comes into force on the 21 January 2010, but if any person aggrieved by the Order desires to question its validity or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the above Act, or on the ground that any requirement of that Act or any regulation made under it has not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he/she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the date on which the Notice is first published make an application to the High Court.

SCHEDULE

Site of Existing Path

Commences at ST 0301 7788 at the north eastern corner of Llwynddu and runs southwards through a narrow alley to a stile below an electricity pylon at ST 0306 7770. The path then runs northeastwards across a field, then northwards along the field boundary to the farmyard at ST 0318 7786. The path turns eastwards to cross the former farmyard to ST 0326 7787 then follows the accommodation road southeastwards to terminate on the adopted highway at ST 0342 7777.

Length: 661 metres
Width: undefined

Site of New Path

Commences at ST 0301 7788 at the north eastern corner of Llwynddu and runs eastwards across a field to ST 0317 7792. The path then follows the field boundary northwards to ST 0318 7796 where it turns eastwards across two fields to ST 0347 7796 at the adopted highway. The path then continues southward along the adopted highway to terminate at ST 0342 7777.

Length: 691 metres
Width: 1.2 metres

Dated 11 February 2010

Director of Environmental & Economic Regeneration
Docks Offices, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

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01446 793618 07

X Reg
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1.6 5-Dr
Metallic Black, 79,000 miles, long MOT, exceptional condition throughout.
£975 ono
01656 860855 05

2003 (03)
Citroen C3
1.4 Petrol
Red, 57k miles, 1 careful lady owner. Excellent condition, MOT til June.
£2,995
07907 165056 05

51 Rover 25 1.4
3-dr Hatchback
Green. 4 previous owners, 113,000 miles, MoT 22/03/10, lovely car with high motorway miles. Scratch to passenger door. new tyres 2,000 miles ago.
£950 ono
07940 934508
(anytime) 04

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SE 2.0 Diesel
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Articles For Sale

ADVERTISE HERE for up to 4 weeks for 50p a word plus VAT. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to "The Glamorgan Gem" at The Gem, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. **Sorry no refunds are given.**

ANTIQUE PINE FURNITURE, TV corner unit, £150; medium/large blanket box, £100. Tel. 01446 775975. **(07)**

BOXES OF ASSORTED VIDEOS, 40 per box. £10 per box. Tel 07791 547872. (07)

VICTORIAN OAK PEDESTAL DESK, the inset tooled leather, moulded edge top with rounded corners above nine drawers around a central knee hole on plinth base. 60inches by 31 inches. Valued at £1,800, sell for £750. Tel. 01446 736162. **(07)**

THREE-PIECE SUITE. Blue, Duresta, cost £4,500, will take £99, very good condition. Tel. 07789 182790. **(07)**

THREE-PIECE M&S SUITE £150; small cane conservatory settee £50. Both terracotta and cream colour. Two 4-drawer bedroom chests £25 each. All excellent condition. Tel. 01446 796274. **(07)**

SEWING MACHINE, Proelectric, small, light weight, £22.50 ono. Bonsai Pots. 6 small to medium, one large plus tray, £12.50 ono. Tel. 01446 794822 **(07)**

HAND BUILT RALEIGH RANDONNEUR. Lightweight with Shimano brakes and gears (18-speed), hardly used, £395. Tel. 01446 781272. **(07)**

EU REHA BATHLIFT. As new, £250 ono. Tel. 01656 750752. **(06)**

VIBROSTATION TRAINING PLATE. Professional training plate, hardly used, 10 months old, as new, cost £900, sell £450 ono. Unable to use due to disability. Dell 27inch Ultrasharp PC Monitor, hardly used, as new, £350 ono. Jiyam 24inch PC Monitor, as new, £120 ono. Tel. 01446 407354. **(06)**

ALSTON BEDROOM FURNITURE. 2 single wardrobes, 1 seven drawer chest, 1 three drawer chest, light wood with decorative panels and handles. £140 ono. Tel. 01446 404166. **(06)**

CHILD'S SCHOOL DESK. Victorian pine with ceramic inkwell. £50. Tel. Cowbridge 01446 773038. **(06)**

EXCEPTIONALLY COMFORTABLE G-Plan fabric three piece suite, excellent condition, two electric recliners, cost £2,300, sell £300. Tel. 01446 740484. **(06)**

HSINGHAI UPRIGHT PIANO. Good condition, needs tuning, 25 years old. Pick up only, £400 ono. Tel. 01446 747677. **(06)**

TV/VIDEO CABINET (McNally & Finlay), mahogany, excellent condition. Cost £600 new, sell £300 ono. Tel. 01446 796994. **(06)**

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SINGER Compact steam press, good condition £45. Tel: 01446 792147. **(05)**

ACORN STAIRLIFT As new, bought for £2,900. Offers around £1,600. Tel: 07971 576838. **(05)**

SOFA BED Brown tweed, almost new. Cost £1,000, sell £470 ono. Tel: 01446 751651. **(04)**

THE BEST BUILDERS AND BUILDINGS IN THE VALE RECEIVE THEIR ACCOLADES

ABOVE:
The sponsors with Colin Blick (operational manager for building control), Wendy Byrne (Grab-It), Shaun Doyle (Ivorfire), Julie Bannon (manager Mount Sorrel), Steve Nicholls (Steve Nicholls Estate Agents), Jan Irving (The GEM), and Maria Webber (technical and development officer, building control) .

ABOVE: Winning the social affordable housing category was ET & S Construction Ltd., for flats at Bassett Street, Barry. (Pictured with Jan Irving of The GEM).

RECENTLY, The GEM reported the nominations for the Vale of Glamorgan Building Awards, and the winners (pictured here) have now been announced

Colin Blick, the Vale Council's operational manager for building control, said: "The nominations this year were once again of high quality.

"The winners will now go forward to the South Wales LABC Cymru awards, which will be held at the Mecure Holland House Hotel, Cardiff, on March 12, hosted by BBC TV personality Jason Mohammed.

"This was the seventh event that we have organised and it seems to go from strength to strength. My thanks go out to the sponsors, The GEM, Ivorfire, Grab-it, Best Western Mount Sorrel Hotel and Steve Nicholls Estate Agents.

"Unfortunately, this will be my last year hosting the awards, as I will soon be leaving the Vale of Glamorgan Building Control Group.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone, especially my team in building control, for all the help and assistance I have received over the past 32 years, 25 years of those in building control."

See more pictures on facing page.

ABOVE: The joint winners of the multiple housing category were Langdale Homes Ltd and Centregreat Ltd. They are pictured with sponsor Steve Nicholls

ABOVE:
The winner of the extension and alterations category was Mr Martyn Jones for the extension at The Old Vicarage, Pendoylan. He is pictured with Julie Bannon of the Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry.

ABOVE: The winners of the commercial category : Leekes of Llantrisant for the New Pavillion at Hensol.

ABOVE: The winners of the new single dwelling category were Goldsworthy Homes Ltd., for a new dwelling at 10, Clive Place, Penarth. They are pictured with Wendy Byrne and Colin Blick.

ABOVE: Highly Commended in the extension and alterations category were TW Boagey for their work at 10, Cornerswell Place, Penarth.

RIGHT:
Also Highly Commended in the extension and alterations category were Brian Toutt & Sons Builders ,for their extension at The Cottage, Westgate, Cowbridge. They are pictured receiving their award from Julie Bannon.

ABOVE:
Highly Commended in the extension and alterations category were Gwyn G Jones & Sons Ltd, for their extension at Ty Cwar, St Brides Major.

LEFT:
Highly Commended In the commercial category was Carter Llauren for the unit at Llandough Hospital. (Pictured with Shaun Doyle of Ivorfire).

Building Awards winners

Highly Commended in Social Affordable Housing : Pendragon Design & Build Ltd., for Flats at Vere St., Barry.

Highly Commended in Category for Multiple Dwellings Mike Guthrie c/o A.J.F. Building Services, for dwellings at River Court, Treoes .

Highly Commended in New Single Dwelling – Steve Lee Builders, for former Vale Garage site, St. Mary Church .

Welsh rugby squad pitches in to boost a special 40th!

BARRY Memorial Hall was the venue for the Moya Vahey School of Russian Classical Dance's 40th anniversary concert, with all proceeds being donated to cancer research.

Despite dreadful weather, it was a near sell-out, with programmes and raffle ticket sales adding to the fundraising efforts.

The concert was performed by students, aged three years and upwards, from Cowbridge, Llantwit Major, Pontyclun, Efail Isaf and Llanharry, pupils of Moya Vahey herself and of her ex-pupil Ella Shepherd, who now runs her own branch of the school.

The programme was enhanced by performances by special guests from the world of professional ballet, Guzel Atymtayeva; and from Moya's very first class in 1969, Diane Stanton, who now lives in Cardiff.

The standard of performance, from the children as well as the professionals was exceptional. Many of Moya's pupils over the years have gone on to study ballet and then on to professional careers.

Performers at the Memorial Hall included alumni of the Royal Ballet School, Arts Educational School, Tring, and the dance degree at Surrey University – all of whom started out with Moya in Cowbridge.

The concert was attended by the Mayor of Cowbridge, Coun Jon Harris, and by Charlotte Leadbeater, Mayor of Llandeilo and Patron of Ballet Russe.

Excitement in the interval was provided by the announcement that one of the raffle prizes was a rugby ball signed by the entire Welsh rugby squad and kindly donated to the event. Tickets sold like wildfire and the ball was eventually won by a very happy gentleman!

Moya Vahey would like to thank everyone for their support of this event, for their generous donations to the raffle, and for help backstage and front of house. A cheque for more than £1,000 has been presented to Cancer Research, Wales.

REBECCA JAMES

(Photographs by Aliye Mullen)

Mayor of Llandeilo, Charlotte Leadbeater presents flowers and thanks to Moya Vahey.

ABOVE: Soloists in 'Winter', left to right: Ella Shepherd, Marla Ellis, Miriam Bennett, Kim Hooper.

BELOW, back to front: Sophie Gottschalk, Verity-Belle Atkinson, Tegan Cecil, Miriam Bennett.

ABOVE: 'Summer' finale: left to right, Katie Stone, Tegan Cecil, Verity-Belle Atkinson; front, Flora Lloyd James; back, Rachel Brooke-Bent.

Netball B team's rally not enough

LLANTWIT Major B team hoped to notch up another win when they faced Cynffig B, especially as they had beaten them in a very tight game previously.

Cynffig were ready for Llantwit and threw everything at them in the first quarter.

Llantwit were stunned by the onslaught and were nine goals behind after the first 15 minutes.

The second quarter wasn't much better, with Cynffig widening the gap further. With nothing to lose, captain Anna Griffin made some changes at half-time; Llantwit seemed to wake up and the opposition were finally challenged.

In the last quarter, Llantwit pulled back well, but the damage had already been done in the first half.

The final score was Cynffig B 32-Llantwit B 19.

Player of the match was Grace Osborne.

KR

Dinas can't stop Outlaw stealing all three points for Bridgend Town

ONCE again, prior to this home game between Dinas Powys and Bridgend Town, dog mess had to be removed from the pitch and although every effort is made, inevitably some traces remain.

The perimeters of the pitch are absolutely littered with it and make it very unpleasant for spectators, as well as players..

There are signs prominently displayed with threats of £1,000 fines for irresponsible owners of dogs caught fouling the area, but one wonders if these will ever be enforced?

Back to the game and there was not a lot of good football on show from either side, Dinas found it difficult to put together any fluent football with not enough passes finding a teammate and while the visitors defence looked vulnerable, Dinas couldn't take full advantage.

Bridgend started the better by pushing the home side back, but 'keeper Peter Blaine only had one weak shot to deal with.

Dinas relied on breakaways with Mark Dunford prominent when they did get forward. It was Dunford who opened the scoring in the 10th minute when a mistake in the visitors' defence gave Tony Wallis the chance to find Paul Carro whose cross was converted by Dunford from 10 yards.

They held on to the lead for just seven minutes before a long ball out of the Bridgend defence was headed on and Ganluca Pallidino shot past the Dinas 'keeper from 20 yards.

From a free-kick, Pallidino had another chance to score but his header was too close to the 'keeper who saved comfortably.

The home side's reply was a quick break when a Bridgend corner was cleared, but Paul Carro's cross was cut out by keeper Neil Collins before Tony Wallis could pounce.

Early in second-half we saw a glimpse of what could be done when good passing between Carro and Wallis gave Mark Dunford an opportunity, but his effort was wide of the upright.

This glimmer didn't last long and if anything the remainder of the game deteriorated to even lower levels than that of the first half.

It was the visitors who got the decider eight minutes into the half when a good ball in from the right found Rameer Outlaw, and he was given the room to turn and fire home from no more than eight yards to make it 2-1 to the away side.

Neither team were able to create any further clear cut opportunities in the game, with Bridgend moving to within a point of Dinas in the league with three games in hand.

It doesn't get any easier with Saturday's visitors, table-toppers Goytre Utd at The Murch (kick-off 2pm), but Dinas usually play well against them, having pushed them all the way in the fixture at Glenhaford Park earlier in season and the team-look forward to the challenge.

SQUAD:

1 Peter Blaine, 2 Tom Hutton, 3 Josh Reffell, 4 Owain Adams, 5 Lloyd Davies, 6 Paul Carro, 7 Ricki Morgan, 8 Jacob Rudman, 9 Joe Hinds, 10 Mark Dunford (1), 11 Tony Wallis, 12 Barry Pappin,14 Rhodri Foote, 15 Anthony Roberts.

For a full list of fixtures see the club's web site: www.dinaspowys-fc.co.uk **MW**

'WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS' – Cadoxton Tae Kwon Do success

THE Cadoxton schools of Tae Kwon Do attended the final grand prix tournament in a series of five hosted by Mal Johns of WOMAA.

Points were awarded for the first four places in all categories, resulting in a grand champion at the end of the series.

First category under way was the pattern sessions, Lucy Newman and Jon Hawkins taking third places.

Once the pattern categories were completed, the sparring categories got under way with the Cadoxton school being represented in most.

Medal positions in the point sparring categories were: Morgan Stavert Hawkins, Jamie Halford, Liam Rees and Bradley Halford all taking first place; Ollie Tipples, Matthew Bennett, Jon Hawkins, Emily Stavert and Charlotte Sullivan took second places; while Morgan Harrhy and Lucy Newman took third places.

Medal positions in the continuous sparring categories were: Jamie Halford, Jon Hawkins, Liam Rees and Morgan Harrhy taking first places; Matthew Bennett, Lucy Newman, Emily Stavert and Bradley Halford all taking second places; with Thomas Haysham taking third place.

Once the tournament was completed, all the points were added up from the previous four events with the Cadoxton School finishing top overall with 10 grand champions and six runner-up positions.

ABOVE: The grand champions show off their trophies and certificates.

The awards were presented by WOMAA Welsh president Master Mal Johns. The presentations took place at the Dolphin nightclub, followed by a buffet and disco.

Cadoxton grand champions are as follows: Jon Hawkins, the men's 2009 pattern grand champion, with Lucy Newman runner-up in the mixed junior section.

In their individual point sparring categories grand champions were as follows: Liam Rees, Emily Stavert, Bradley Halford, Morgan Harrhy, Jamie Halford, Jon Hawkins. Runners-up were Hayley Mattey, Thomas Haysham, Charlotte Sullivan and Lucy Newman.

In their individual continuous sparring categories, grand champions were as follows: Liam Rees, Bradley Halford, Morgan Harrhy, Jamie Halford. Runners-up were Matthew Bennett and Morganne Gomez Jones.

Thomas Haysham was awarded competitor of the series, Jon Hawkins student of the year and Jamie Halford being awarded the Ultimate 2009 competitor.

RON THOMAS

ABOVE: Tournament winners with their silverware.

Eagles are honoured

AT the recent World Organisation of Martial Art Athletes (WOMAA) awards night, three Eagles kickboxing students were acknowledged for their outstanding achievements during the 2009 series.

Young Thomas Evans (12 years old) was awarded a prestigious plaque, earned as Eagles 'Kickboxing student of the year', by Master Mal Johns for his all-round effort during 2009.

Thomas caught the eye of the senior instructor with his readiness to tackle any task, whether that be taking the class warm-up or demonstrating techniques to the lower grades.

Jade Morgans, after only seven lessons with the Eagles, stepped into the ring at the final competition of the WOMAA series 2009, and faced off against a very experienced opponent.

Jade fought a second Dan black belt in her very first competition and although losing, gave her opponent a fight.

The Eagles trainer and coach said that he was delighted with Jade's performance, and that she had gained a lot of respect from the other fighters in her first competition, and will go from strength to strength in 2010.

Newly-promoted instructor James Eveleigh received a number of awards.

He was presented with his certificate of achievement and recognition of his grade of Black belt, and he was also awarded his coaching certificates, levels 1 and 2.

At the last competition in December 2009, James took first place in the semi-contact black belt category after being entered without his knowledge. He was given just five minutes to prepare by his coach, who was very confident in James' ability. He took first place against worthy opponents.

Contact 07737 835237 for more information.

Llantwit under-12s perform well in difficult conditions

LLANTWIT Major under-12s entertained Dinas Powys on the school field and, after not playing for some weeks, were eager to get back to their winning ways.

Dinas were a few players short, so Edward Rowbottom and Ceiran West volunteered to play for them.

Llantwit played down the slope in the first half and captain Joe Bunt opened up the scoring after two minutes following some good driving play by the forwards. Iestyn Jones converted.

The game ebbed and flowed for a while with both sides trying to make headway in the heavy conditions.

Llantwit launched a drive through the forwards and good handling by the backs set up a ruck five metres from the Dinas line, and with quick ball and slick passing from Dan Richards to Jack Anderson, Jack crashed over the line and under the posts.

Only a minute later, Llantwit forwards won the ball in the middle of the pitch, and through good handling sent Ryan Clarke on an arcing run, outpacing a couple of defenders and scoring in the corner.

Although under the cosh, Dinas never stopped trying and their pack constructed some good driving play.

A few minutes before half-time, Llantwit forwards released ball for the backs, unleashing Richard Dangerfield on one of his weaving runs, leaving a number of defenders trailing in his wake. It resulted in a try and conversion, making the half-time score 26-0 to Llantwit.

Within minutes of the start of the second half, Jack Anderson got his second try after powerful driving by the pack. He went on a charge and once again crashed between the posts, enabling Iestyn to successfully convert.

Richard Dangerfield scored two more tries, making the final score Llantwit Major 47, Dinas Powis 0.

The Llantwit boys gave an excellent all-round performance in difficult conditions.

The forwards' ball retention and driving play has really improved and the backs' ball handling skills and defensive play has given them increased confidence, bringing a wider dimension to their game.

Well done to you all! A big thank you must also go to the referee Richard Godwin, who ensured the game was played in a good, competitive manner throughout.

Players of the match went to Ceiran West and Edward Rowbottom, who battled valiantly for the visitors.

Kings Head lead darts league

THE latest standings in the Llantwit Major District Darts League show Kings Head 1 still setting the pace in the A league.

A LEAGUE	
Kings Head 1	54
Golden Cups	52
Blacksmiths Arms 1	44
Kings Cup	44
Wenvoe Arms	42
Lamb & Flag	41
Rugby Club	41
Kings Head 2	40
Shoes Peterston	38
Four Bells	36
Blacksmiths Arms 2	23
Fox & Hounds	22
C LEAGUE	
Shoes Marcross	83
Kings Cup	70
Lamb & Flag	68
Farmers Arms	60
Kings Head 1	57
Carpenters Arms	51
Rugby Club	31
Kings Head 2	28

Aberthin's Rhys lands double win at Erw Lon

RHYS HUGHES, who is assistant trainer to Aberthin's Tim Vaughan, landed a double at the Vale of Clettwr Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Erw Lon on Saturday.

He won when winning the men's open race on *Warsaw Pact* and the restricted on *Oca De Thaix*, and his guvnor was there to support him.

Warsaw Pact, a good winner under rules and a former inmate of top trainer Philip Hobbs' yard, is trained by Robert Scrine at Bridgend and owned by Catherine Rhead.

Oca De Thaix, who is trained by Robert Luke at Clabeston Road, was a first winner for owner Charlotte Evans.

The prolific Llangeinor mare *Chesnut Annie*, owned and trained by Beth Roberts, finished alone to take the ladies' open race after her other five rivals all failed to complete the course.

Her main rival, *Bob Bites Back*, was the only danger after the rest of the field had either been unseated or pulled up by the ninth fence.

However, he was soon fighting a losing battle and refused at the 11th fence. *Chesnut Annie's* rider Isabel Tompsett was chalking-up her 50th winner between the flags.

Mrs Rae Jones's nine-year-old bay gelding *Up There*, who is qualified with the Pentyrch Hunt, got home by half-a-length from the pace-making *Twilight Dancer* to take the confined race. *Up There* was the only ride of the meeting for Liam Payter.

Twilight Dancer's rider, Mrs Fiona Williams-Jones (better known as Fiona Wilson) from Bridgend, was having her first ride since retiring five years ago to have her two children and the cheers for her were just as loud as they were for the winner!

John Mathias won both divisions of the maiden race, taking the first on *Rith Bob* and the second on *Rimini*. Both winners are owned and trained by Dai Rees.

Cowbridge's James Tudor and Ogmore's Nick Williams both rode winners at the United Services meeting at Lark Hill.

James landed a double with *Civil Disobedience* (restricted division two) and *Dovecut Wood* (maiden division two) and Nick scored on 5-1 chance *Garton King* (maiden division one) who beat James's mount *Allerford Jack*.

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

LOCAL TRAINER'S FILLY IS 'SHOCK' WINNER AGAIN

***CWMI*, a four-year-old bay filly trained by Cowbridge's Bryn Palling, was a shock 25-1 winner of the Marriott Hotel Opening Spring 2010 Handicap at Lingfield last Friday.**

Well ridden by Welsh jockey David Probert, *Cwmi* led in the closing stages of the race to win by a head from *Heart Of Gold*.

The last time *Cwmi* won was last July at Bath when scoring at odds of 33-1 and Probert was in the saddle on that occasion too. In fact, the promising Probert is the only rider to have been successful on this home-bred filly.

At Taunton earlier in the week, Rhys Flint from Kenfig Hill, riding his father John's *Dawn at Sea,* won the Conditional Jockeys' Handicap Hurdle.

A 12-1 chance, *Dawn At Sea* got home by a head from the 3-1 favourite *French Ties* in a field of 15 runners.

Aberthin's Tim Vaughan took the next race – the SouthWest-Racing.Com Novices' Hurdle – with 25-1 shot *Hucking Hero* who, ridden by stable jockey Richard Johnson, won by one-and-three-quarter lengths from *Mister Stickler*. Johnson later made it a double when winning on *Voramar Two,* who had eight lengths to spare over the Evan Williams' trained *Cappa Bleu*.

Meanwhile, on May 6, 1954, I attended a pony race meeting at Castleton Racecourse. The clerk of the course was Coun Layton Lougher, who I believe farmed in the Llancarfan area. Perhaps someone will correct me if I'm wrong.

My racecard tells that Jimmy Wilde, the world famous boxer, was one of the judges and that the honorary veterinary surgeon was Mr DG Llewellyn of Cardiff.

The stewards were Howard Walker, J Burns, Percy Lewis, Bryn Davies, Trevor Yapp and BJ David.

Jack Powell, a bookmaker of 12 Dunraven Place, Bridgend, had a full page advert in the racecard which set me back a shilling (5p) – as did another bookmaker WT Griffiths, popularly known as 'Billo' Griffiths, who had an office at 17 Quay Street, Cardiff.

I don't remember much about the meeting, but Mr JE Tudor of Bridgend had a horse running called *Hot Knight*, Mr W J Morgan of Cowbridge entered his *Lucky Patch* and *Tirpedo*, while Mr EJ Evans of Llanharry entered his horse *The Duke*.

A four-year-old chestnut colt called *Coronation*, owned by Cowbridge's Mr TH Morgan, won the Farm Stakes and a silver cup presented by Billo Griffiths, as well as the first prize of £26.

Who were the jockeys? I don't know – they are not on the racecard!

You can email your views/news to Brian Lee at leebrian@btinternet.com or phone him on 029 2073 6438.

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Local archer changes his aim for 2010

Mathew Symmonds.

LLANTWIT Major-based field archer and current world champion, Mathew Symmonds is creating a stir in the archery world.

Despite enjoying a highly successful international career in field archery, Mathew has never before engaged in a quite different discipline – national level target archery – and is aiming for a place in the Commonwealth Games team for 2011.

Mathew has just completed his first tournament in the Federation Internationale T'ir a l'Arc, or International Archery Federation, the world governing body for target archery and the Olympic target archery tournament.

The Grand National Archery Society Welsh Indoor championships were recently held at the Welsh Institute of Sport in Cardiff and it featured the FITA 18 round, which consists of 60 arrows shot from a distance of 18 metres.

The tournament is the premier indoor target event in Wales and it featured more than 120 of Wales' top target archers, and Mathew achieved a top five finish, a fantastic start against experienced target archers.

Shooting for Llanharan-based club Blandy Jenkins Archers, Mathew got off to a good start, recording a very respectable first dozen arrows to take the lead jointly with Neil Bowdler of Llandeilo.

The second dozen saw some consistent shooting from the local archer, but he dropped six points in the third dozen, and was overtaken by Bowdler and Tony Nilsen of Pentref Bowmen.

This caused Symmonds to rally in the fourth dozen, dropping just four points off the maximum to move back into contention.

During the fifth and final dozen, the leaders drew a slim two-point lead on Symmonds and that was enough to push the local archer into fourth place at the finish.

Mathew commented: "I enjoyed the tournament immensely. The FITA (target) code definitely involves a different psychological approach from field shooting, as does shooting to a time limit. I am pleased with my performance today but I need to learn quickly if I am to make an impact in the target code."

Training in both disciplines will take Mathew to a combination of field and target archery tournaments throughout 2010, culminating in a defence of his World Field Archery Championship title in Dahn, Germany in August.

Under-10s provide a late, late show

LLANTWIT Major under-10s travelled to Cricc on Sunday for their first game since before Christmas.

In the first third, Llantwit started very slowly letting in a try almost from the kick-off, with the Cricc No 10 controlling the game scoring and three tries.

However, Llantwit scored a try just before the end to take the score to 28-5.

In the second third, Llantwit started to pick the game up and the Llantwit forwards began to play on the front foot, driving through the Cricc defence. However, the Cricc No 10 was everywhere, and with their winger linking up with him, they were very dangerous.

The Llantwit defence was very good with some excellent tackling and attacking play, the second third finished 24-21 in favour of Cricc.

In the last third, Llantwit produced the goods with excellent play in defence and attack, and most of all, team spirit, playing and supporting each other .

They scored two good tries with some quick thinking by Morgan Gore and Ewan Briggs. Llantwit won the last third by 14-5 which gave a total score of 57-40.

Man-of-the-match for Llantwit was Sam Bluck, who has showed great progress this season in attack and defence. Also, well done to new debutant Lewis Brown who showed good speed in attack.

Team: Luke Pilcher, Ewan Briggs, Nick Harris, Joe Baker, Oliver Rowbottom, Morgan Gore, Sam Bluck, Ellis Simon, Harry Lovell, Iuean Wiiliams, Rhys Richards and Lewis Brown. **MP**

Farmers are back in the swing of things

MEMBERS of The Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society were back in action recently following a long period of inactivity and were made very welcome at Radyr Golf Club, where they competed for the Llanharan Concrete Silver Rose Bowl, and other quality prizes supplied by the day's generous sponsor Mr Gino Cocco.

Seasonal illnesses, the cold weather and a dodgy curry resulted in a few late withdrawals, with only 24 members turning out for what proved a very enjoyable day on a golf course in excellent condition.

Leading the field at the end of the day with 32 stableford points was a resplendent Chris Rooney, whose recent investment in a third set of clubs in three months proved very worthwhile.

In second place, also with 32 points but an inferior back nine, was Colwinstone businessman Clive Edwards, who just edged ahead of third-placed Julian Kelly, who also finished with 32 points.

Poor finish

Lack of staying power by Llancadle farmer David Williams once again proved costly. Having accumulated 26 points after 13 holes to lead the field, David fell apart on the final five holes to drop down the leaderboard and finish just outside the frame with 31 points.

Nearest the pin on the par three holes were Keith Wilding (2), president Geraint Davies, Reg Davies and John Davies, who also collected the 'Premier Turf' sponsored lost ball prize which generated £40 for The Noah's Ark Appeal Fund.

Guest Hugh Williams, having just returned from a very successful and enjoyable skiing trip with pupils and staff from Cowbridge Comprehensive School, won the guest section with an impressive 32 points, in addition to hitting the longest drive of the day to collect the 'James the Butcher' sponsored prize. Sponsors representative Gerry Davies finished runner-up.

Society members are now looking forward to their annual presentation evening at the Heronston Hotel, Bridgend on Friday, February 19. Tickets from Mr Ray Simkiss (01446 774542). **TMcC**

Barry Seconds edge local derby with Sully

BARRY 2nd XV	**10**
SULLY	**0**

BARRY Seconds were hoping to continue their good form this calendar year against a determined Sully side in this eagerly-awaited local derby.

The away side started brightly, despite playing against the elements in the first half. A combination of powerful mauling and intelligent kicking kept Barry in their own 22, and while there were glimpses of the backs firing, the final pass was often lacking.

The home side finally got a foothold in the game and a more aggressive approach at the breakdown pushed Barry into the opposition's 22 and quick recycling of the ball saw Grantley Harris power over for the first score of the match; Danny Ryan, coming in for the unavailable Adam Lee, missed the conversion.

Sully were not deflated, however, and continued to be solid in the set piece, especially in the line-out where they frequently stole Barry ball.

Their forwards were competing well and they continued to trouble the home side with their driving maul.

However, it was Barry who scored next, and it was once again quick ball that told. Ashley Adams was once again involved, as he sped down the right wing after the ball was flashed wide, and a final inside pass to Ryan allowed the fly-half to touch down. He was unable to add the extras.

Sully came back out in the second half looking for a comeback, and they redoubled their efforts in the scrum, completely dominating the set piece.

Camping in the Barry 22 for long periods of time, it took an outstanding collective defensive rearguard to keep them at bay, with James Hadfield and Lee Jones particularly impressive. The away side had several set piece opportunities near the Barry line, but ultimately were unable to convert.

It was Barry who had the final attacking opportunities in the dying moments of the game, as first Ken Chow then Alex Evans both fielded high balls to unleash the pace of Ryan and substitute Luke Bounds in the counter-attack. This time, however, was the turn of some solid away defence that kept the score at 10-0 at the final whistle.

Team: N Jones; Adams; Harris, Alyn Evans; D Williams; J Williams, Ryan; Hollister, Turnbull (c), Haskell; Elsworth, McTavish; Hitchcock, Rolfe; Hadfield. Subs: Chow; Alex Evans; Bounds; Taylor; Cordle; Houldey; Manley; L Jones; O'Sullivan; Case.

Man-of-the-match: L Jones. **KC**

Valeways winter walks

A 'Maritime Love Story Walk' from Sully Island on Sunday, February 14 at 2.30pm, starting from the Captain's Wife car park (£1 refundable car parking chage against bar purchases).

On Wednesday, February 17 at 1.30pm, a walk through Penllyn Wells and Woods is planned, starting from the Red Fox Inn, Penllyn.

Luke notches hat trick for Dragons

by GWYN JOHN

IT was another weekend with most of the matches called off in the Vale of Glamorgan League as a result of the heavy rain, causing water-logged pitches.

One game that did go ahead was at Windmill Lane, Llantwit Major, where Llantwit under-13A entertained Cogan B in their first match since December 12.

Their lack of matches certainly showed as the visitors had a comfortable 5-2 victory and played the better football.

Connor Clarke and Alex Griffiths (pen) scored for Llantwit.

All the other junior games were off.

The mini football teams fared much better with the matches at Windmill Lane on.

Porthkerry Panthers played the under-9 Dragons and it was a high-scoring game with both sides playing well.

Luke Beattie notched a hat trick for the under-10 Dragons against Cadoxton Dragons. Further goals came from Moses Gee, Bevan Howells and Laurance Bowman in a good team performance.

The under-11 Lions entertained Glenbrook Dragons which turned out to be a cracking game. Llantwit's marksmen were Toff Patel, Matthew Reynolds and Charlie Martin.

Cadoxton Marvels were the visitors to play the under-11 Tigers. It was a very close game with Leo Kelly in top form for Llantwit and team mate Harry Morgan Grant scored a very good goal.

SUB AQUA CLUB'S £1,000 GRANT

Norman (89) remains an 'inspiration' to young snorkellers

Barry Sub Aqua Club training officer Russell Phillips and members of the youth snorkel section with some of the new equipment they have bought thanks to a £1,000 Community Chest Grant.

A SPECIAL sporting grant is helping young snorkellers take the plunge with Barry Sub Aqua Club – and they can take inspiration from one club member who is still making a splash at the age of 89!

The club has been introducing people to the wonders of the underwater world since 1973, and a £1,000 Community Chest grant is allowing them to buy new equipment for its youth section and to send volunteers on training courses.

Agreed by a panel of volunteers with support from the Vale of Glamorgan Council's sports and play development team and the Sports Council for Wales, the Community Chest grants scheme supports clubs and organisations that aim to provide new and improved opportunities for local people to take part in sports and physical activities.

At 89, Norman Lancefield is a full 81 years older than the club's youngest underwater explorers, and took up the sport in 1978.

Explaining what he enjoys most about sub aqua, Norman said: "I am not much of a shipwreck man, but I like the underwater life and find starfish, crabs and non-animal life really interesting. It's another world. My first dive was at Martins Haven in west Wales and my latest dive last September was at the Farne Islands off the Northumberland coast."

Norman also dived to see the German fleet which was scuttled at Scapa Flow in the Orkney Islands when he was 80, and has since dived in the Red Sea, South Coast and Scotland.

When asked what his family think of him still being able to show the likes of Cristiano Ronaldo a thing or two about diving at the grand age of 89, Norman said: "They think that, as long as I am able to do it, they would like to see me enjoying it."

Norman's enthusiasm is an inspiration to all members of the club, including the youth snorkel section, which allows eight to 15-year-olds to practise in the pool every Tuesday evening at Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School in Barry.

Keen to attract newcomers to both the youth and adult sections of the club, training officer Russell Phillips said: "Snorkelling is an ideal introduction to the underwater world for young people and is an inexpensive and fun way to get fit.

"Meanwhile, many adults often want to have a go at diving before taking the plunge on their holiday abroad. We are extremely grateful for the Community Chest grant which we hope will enable the club to continue to grow and attract both beginners and experienced divers to get involved."

Diving officer Oliver Leonard added: "Barry Sub Aqua Club is a great place to learn and practice our sport. We have a core of incredibly welcoming members and enjoy diving around the coast of the UK, especially West Wales."

You can find out more about Barry Sub Aqua Club by calling 01446 406401, emailing snorkel@barrysub-aqua.org or by going online at www.barrysub-

Norman Lancefield is still making a splash with Barry Sub Aqua Club at 89 years old!

WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE IN THE VALE?

LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mr John Glover – **The Meadows, St Hilary** – conversion of existing garage into living accommodation to form self-contained auxiliary accommodation annexed to existing house and new single storey garage in existing garden.

Mr and Mrs Jones – **Keigwin, Sully Road, Penarth** – conservatory to rear of property.

Mr JE and Mrs PM Oakley – **The Cherries, Pendoylan, Cowbridge** – variation of condition 2 of CR/7365 – agricultural occupancy.

Mr Jeffrey Rubinoff – **Downs Farmhouse, Wick Road, Llantwit Major** – restoration of existing grade II listed building, regularisation of use of existing second floor involving alterations to existing rear wing, erection of two and a half storey extension to rear wing, and single storey dining room extension to rear of building.

Mr and Mrs M and H Jones – **Longlands Barn, Corntown Road, Corntown** – alterations and extension to existing outbuilding.

Mr and Mrs RG Lewis – **The Coach House, rear of Hill House, Cowbridge Road, Ystradowen** – proposed amendments to planning application No 2007/00514/FUL. To provide pitched roof over single storey section.

Dr Nigel Brown – **2 Bradenham Place, Penarth** – replacement of existing top and bottom bay windows with new uPVC box sash windows with vertical opening.

Vale of Glamorgan Council – **Albert Road Primary School, Albert Road, Penarth** – to install new ventilation plant in school kitchen and extract to the roof for Health and Safety reasons.

Mr Stewart Gregory – **2 Pembroke Terrace, Penarth** – rear alterations and side extension.

Mrs Cory – **19 Talyfan Close, Cowbridge** – conservatory with glass roof and rendered walls.

Mr Paul Howes – **Sycamore House, The Walk, Bonvilston** – addition of one room, single storey extension to side of garage.

Mr Tim Lewis – **22 Munro Place, Barry** – two storey extension.

Mr David Williams – **Brigham Farm, Llanharry, Pontyclun** – retrospective planning application for the retention of operations for the processing of timber waste for agricultural purposes including storage of plant and equipment when not in use and completion of partly-constructed extension to farmyard.

St Aubin Nurseries – **34 Archer Road, Penarth** – retention of a wooden cabin for a use falling within the definition of use Class D1.

Co-operative Group – **Somerfield Stores, The Precinct, Llantwit Major** – fascia signs externally illuminated by trough light x 3 (A, C and D).

Ms PM Murray – **54 Porth Y Castell, Barry** – new sun lounge and breakfast room, including internal alterations to rear of dwelling.

Mrs April Bullen – **Cynan Close, Barry** – development of six community allotments with associated building and roadway, replacement fencing and gated for vehicle and pedestrian access.

Mr M Payter – **20 Baroness Place, Penarth** – proposed dormer to rear of property.

Mr Michael Fardy – **Le Lechmere, Wick Road, Llandow** – installation of intermediate floor within garage to provide additional bedroom and en-suite.

Mrs Antonia Bridges – **Maes Y Coed Family Centre, Gladstone Road, Barry** – internal refurbishment, new entrance to car park and canopy to main pedestrian entrance.

Mr James Hadley – **Lextan Limited, 95 Holton Road, Barry** – retention of illuminated signage to shopfront.

Mr Mike Psaila – **Upper Langcross Farm, Leckwith** – retention of mobile home for agricultural purposes for a three-year period.

Mr Nick James – **Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major** – construction of a new two-storey stoneclad pitched roof dwelling with basement access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing dwellings.

Vale of Glamorgan Council – **Youth Offending Team, 91 Salisbury Road, Barry** – internal refurbishments to improve accessibility including new lift and disabled WC. New entrance door and canopy to improve access, minor alterations to elevations for the WC installations.

Mr Nick James – **Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major** – demolition of stone boundary walls within site (as part of proposed construction of a new two-storey stoneclad pitched roof dwelling with basement access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing dwellings.

Mr David Burnett – **Lindens Lodge, Bradford Place, Penarth** – replacement of all existing sliding sash s/w windows to Rehau Heritage style uPVC vertical sliding sash windows.

TJ Bird & Sons – **South Wales Golf Driving Range, Port Road East, Barry** – proposed crematorium.

Mr Rhys ER Williams – **Aberogwrn Farm, Llancarfan** – erection of three timber stables, tack room and hay shed.

Mrs Betty Alden – **1 Mill Park, Cowbridge** – single storey extension to rear and porch to front with minor internal alterations.

Mr and Mrs M Forster – **Marche House, Llantrithyd Road, St Hilary** – general internal alterations; new window and door openings; garage extension and bedroom above.

Focus DIY Ltd – **Focus DIY Ltd, Unit 4, The Waterfront Retail Park, Heol Ceiniog, Barry** – relocation of main customer entrance.

Mr Graeme Oddy – **Maesydd, Llangan** – first floor extension to form new bedroom. A larger dormer is to be created on the existing roof line.

Mr Mark Hood – **plot off Heol Y Cawl Lane, Corntown, Bridgend** – two storey dwelling, to include small extension to utility area, change of use of garage to accommodate a swimming pool and solar panels.

Mr and Mrs Dodd-Clark – **Hafod, Gileston** – demolition of integral garage and erection of two-storey side extension.

Mr Peter Arthur – **34 Windyridge, Dinas Powys** – erection of single storey side extension.

Mr Christopher Langdon – **2 Woodlands, Llanharry** – conservatory to side elevation.

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07 1.1i Airplay + 3dr Hatch Sp Eds	Yellow	12,133 miles	£6,295
08 1.4i VTR 3dr Hatch	Silver	15,846 miles	£7,495
06 1.6i 16v VTR 3dr SensoDrive Hatch	Red	23,521 miles	£5,995
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07 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch	Silver	35,500 miles	£6,495
56 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch	Grey	19,342miles	£6,495
06 1.4i Desire 5dr Hatch Special Edition	Red	28,670miles	£4,995
55 1.6i 16v Exclusive 5dr Sensodrive	Blue	24,769 miles	£5,995
CITROEN C4			
59 1.6i 16v THO VTS 3dr Coupe	Blue	2,967 miles	£13,995
09 1.6i 16v THP VTS 3dr Coupe	Blue	2,967 miles	£13,995
56 1.6iHDi 16v SX 5dr Diesel Hatch	Silver	19,901 miles	£7,995
56 1.6 16v Cool 3dr Coupe Sp Eds	Silver	29,002 miles	£6,995
06 1.6iHDi 16v VTR Plus 3dr Dsl Coupe	Silver	10,573 miles	£7,995
07 1.4i 16v SX 5dr Hatch	Grey	21,972 miles	£6,995
07 1.4i 16v LX 5dr Hatch	Blue	18,000 miles	£5,995
07 1.6i 16v SX 5dr Auto Hatch	Mauve	11,434 miles	£6,995
CITROEN C4 PICASSO			
57 2.0 16v SX 5dr EGS (5 seat) Estate	Silver	7,723 miles	£10,495
CITROEN C5			
58 2.0 HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Auto Diesel Saloon	Red	14,994 miles	£13,995
58 2.0 HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Diesel Saloon	Blue	18,297 miles	£12,995
06 HDi 16v Exclusive 5dr Diesel Hatch	Silver	35,000 miles	£7,995
CITROEN RELAY			
58 2.2 HDi H1 Van 120ps 33 L1 Diesel	White	5,041 miles	£12,645
CITROEN XSARA PICASSO			
10 1.6i 16v Desire 5dr Estate		1 mile	£10,995
59 1.6i 16v Desire 5dr Estate	Red	1 mile	£10,995
08 1.6 HDi 92 VTX 5dr Diesel Estate	Black	25,676 miles	£9,995
PEUGEOT 107			
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165/70R13 Bridgestone B250	£46.34	£87	£165	165/70R13 Avon CR322	£36.62	£70	£135	165/70R13 Federal	£28.81	£52	£99
175/70R14 Bridgestone B250	£59.00	£112	£210	175/70R14 Avon CR322	£46.87	£90	£170	175/70R14 Federal	£32.75	£60	£115
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Dunlop	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Avon	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4		Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
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185/60R14 Bridgestone B250	£65.09	£120	£230	185/60R14 Avon ZV3	£50.31	£95	£185	185/60R14 Maxxis	£35.38	£65	£125
185/60R15 Bridgestone ER300	£69.93	£132	£255	185/60R15 Avon ZV3	£53.86	£102	£199	185/60R15 Maxxis	£38.88	£70	£135
195/60R15 Bridgestone B250	£57.03	£108	£205	195/60R15 Avon ZV3	£50.43	£95	£185	195/60R15 Federal	£41.90	£75	£140

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195/50R15 Bridgestone ER300	£72.23	£135	£260	195/60R15 Avon ZV5	£59.73	£115	£220	195/60R15 Federal	£42.15	£79	£150
195/55R15 Bridgestone ER300	£60.13	£110	£210	195/45R15 Avon ZV5	£52.84	£99	£190	195/45R15 Federal	£43.40	£80	£150
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205/55R16 Bridgestone ER300	£72.64	£135	£260	205/55R16 Avon ZV5	£65.43	£120	£230	205/55R16 Federal	£69.72	£92	£175
225/45R17 Bridgestone RE010	£92.66	£175	£340	225/45R17 XL Avon ZV5	£86.92	£165	£320	225/45R17 XL Federal	£51.19	£95	£180
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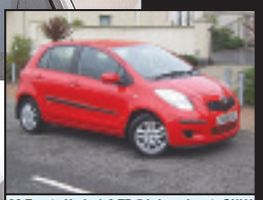

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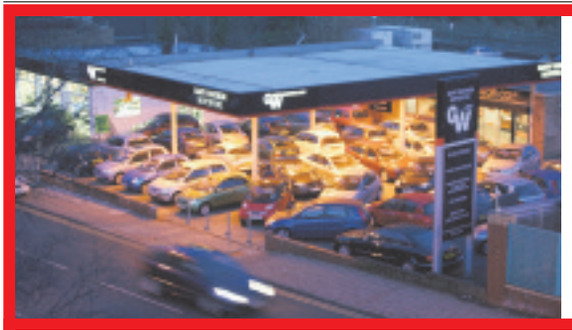

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SPORTS

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06 **06 FORD Focus 1.8TDCi Sport 5-dr Hatchback.** In panther black with dark flint interior, CD, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 55,315 miles **£7,495**

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05 **55 BMW X3 2.0D Sport 5-dr Station Wagon.** In blue water silver with black leather interior, sat nav, multi CD, heated seats, front and rear parking sensors, only 61,930 miles **£14,995**

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FAMILY

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06 **56 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SX 5-dr Estate.** In imperial blue with grey interior, air con, CD, colour coded bumpers, immobiliser, service history, only 31,860 miles **£4,995**

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05 **55 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique** in met platinum silver with ruche cloth interior, auto lights, auto wipers, air con, cd, clour coded bumpers, only 16,380 miles **£5,795**

05 **05 CITROEN Xsara Picasso 1.6 16v Exclusive 5-dr MPV.** In Oriental blue with dorcie blue interior, cruise control, automatic air con, Isofix anchorage point, traction control system, only 32,355 miles **£6,495**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 SW 2.0 HDi 90 XSi 5-dr Estate.** China blue, black/grey merlin interior, a/c, body coloured bumpers, cd, alloys, only 45,796 miles **£5,995**

04 **54 RENAULT Scenic 1.4 16v Authentique** in met grey with anthracite interior, a/c, auto wipers, auto lights, only 42,800 miles **£4,695**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles **£6,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 120 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In metallic silver, with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, air con, only 42,955 miles **£5,995**

04 **04 FORD Focus 1.6 16v Ghia Hatchback.** In moon dust silver with midnight black interior, air con, quick clear windscreen, front fog lights, colour coded bumpers, only 48,695 miles **£4,495**

02 **52 NISSAN Almera 1.8 SVE 5-dr Hatchback.** Grey tungsten cloth, cd, a/c, reversing sensors, colour coded bumpers, only 44,300 miles **£3,995**

02 **52 AUDI A4 1.9 TDi SE.** In denim blue with phoenix blue upholstery, climate control, cd, alloys, only 26,075 miles **£7,995**

01 **Y BMW 3 Series 1.9i 316 4-dr Saloon.** In bright red with dark interior, electric windows, colour coded bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 49,125 miles **£4,295**

SMALL

08 **58 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 VVT-I T2 5-dr Hatchback.** In crystal silver, electric windows and mirrors, CD, multi-function steering wheel, only 3,725 miles **£7,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 68 Extreme hatchback.** In black with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, only £35 per year road tax, 27,650 miles **£7,295**

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06 **56 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Climate** in panther black with tungsten cloth interior, alloy wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, front fogs, rear spoiler, cd, only 12,800 miles **£5,995**

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06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus Sport** in pearl black pearlescent with extreme interior, colour coded bumpers, remote central locking, alloy wheels, alarm and immobiliser, electric windows, only 22,488 miles **£5,295**

06 **55 TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 VVT-i Sport** in carbon quartz met with dark flint interior, alloy wheels, cd, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, elecctric windows, only 51,300 miles **£4,995**

05 **55 FORD KA Luxury 1.3 3-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with ebony leather interior, air con, quick clear screen, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 16,980 miles **£5,495**

04 **54 FORD Fiesta Flame 1.4 Limited Edition 5-dr Hatchback.** In Flare orange with Kompass silver interior, CD, alloy wheels, roof spoiler, air con, only 36,585 miles **£4,695**

04 **54 FORD Ka 1.3 3-door Hatchback.** In deep navy blue with indigo cascade cloth interior, CD, ABS, immobiliser, power steering, only 31,595 miles **£2,995**

04 **04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cdm alloy wheels, alarm, only 43,895 miles **£6,495**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In Platinum silver with dark grey interior, sunroof, alloy wheels, CD, front fogs, only 37,700 miles **£4,795**

04 **04 ROVER Streetwise 1.4 16v 3-dr** in trophy yellow with sebring half leather interior, cd, roof rails, rearr spoiler, alarm and immobiliser, only 41,590 miles **£3,495**

04 **04 FORD Ka 1.3 Style 3-dr Hatchback.** In moondust silver with digit anthracite interior, CD, power steering, colour coded bumpers, only 48,656 miles **£3,495**

02 **02 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Coupe Cabriolet S 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 64,220 miles **£5,495**

02 **52 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback** in met silver with dark interior, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 48,060 miles **£3,995**

01 **51 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet SE 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, digital climate control, cd, 16 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, only 46,010 miles **£3,995**

00 **X RENAULT Megane 1.4 16v Sport Alize 2-dr Coupe.** In Monaco blue with blue interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, immobiliser, only 62,000 miles **£2,495**

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06 **06 AUDI A3 1.9TDi Special Edition 3-dr Hatchback.** In brilliant black with module black cloth interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, full Audi service history, one owner, only 55,390 miles **£9,495**

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GEM sport

Wales won't want to trip up again as they set sights on the penthouse

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

LONG after passions and memories fade, the record books will simply list another emphatic win for England over Wales at Twickenham – no matter that the 30-17 score-line on Saturday paints a misleading picture of a below-par centenary clash that was decided more by profligate Welsh errors and an act of indiscipline, than superior English play *per se*.

The withdrawal through injury of British Lions, Gethin Jenkins and Matthew Rees, had levelled the front row set-piece battle at the outset, but although supporters may have feared their absence would be fatal to Welsh hopes, in fact, scrum-time was thankfully not a problem.

Instead, it was that old Achilles heel, a chronically misfiring Welsh line-out, which suddenly resurfaced – as new squad member, Blues hooker Gareth Williams, though a pocket livewire in the loose – repeatedly failed to find his unfamiliar jumpers.

Given these worrying difficulties, the rash trip on an opponent by Wales' main line-out jumper Alun Wyn Jones – in full view of the referee – was as inexcusable as it was to prove costly, for while he was spending his 10 minutes in the 'sin bin', his embattled 14 team mates were reeling from a 17 points blitz – as a lack-lustre England side jubilantly amassed two converted tries and a penalty that set them on the road to what had seemed an unlikely triumph.

Ironically, the big Ospreys second row underlined what might have been when he eventually rejoined the fray and Wales launched a belated fight-back, capped by a magical try from the gifted James Hook, that took them to within three points of England's total, before yet more errors finally gifted the game to the clearly-relieved men in white.

Amazingly, in view of Wales' two decades in the rugby wilderness when the red dragon was regularly on the receiving end of crushing defeats at the hands of St George, this 119th fixture had begun with the two old foes locked on 53 wins apiece, with 12 matches drawn.

England may have finally inched ahead in the honour stakes, but the Welsh camp know that this really was a huge opportunity missed against a side that in truth was a pale shadow of its illustrious predecessors of the 80s and 90s.

Not only has defeat dashed Triple Crown and Grand Slam hopes for another year, at a stroke, but more importantly it has upset the Welsh camp's psychological build-up to the World Cup

Little wonder that head coach Warren Gatland and sidekick Shaun Edwards were grim-faced with anger afterwards and a chastened Alun Wyn Jones was left sweating on whether his misdemeanour would cost him his place against Scotland at the Millennium Stadium on Saturday.

In the event, when the team was unveiled on Tuesday, he had been reprieved, and it was his second row partner Luke Charteris who made way for the versatile Jonathan Thomas.

Blues hooker Gareth Williams is also granted a second chance to atone for the wayward lineout at Twickenham, with Gareth Cooper still holding off the stiff challenge of Richie Rees at scrum half.

Leigh Halfpenny has replaced Blues wing colleague Tom James in the only other change to the starting line-up, but the team will be cheered to have the reassuring presence of Gethin Jenkins on the replacements bench.

Scotland were completely outclassed by tournament favourites France in going down 18-9 at Murrayfield, but will surely present tougher opposition at the Millennium Stadium, where they have enjoyed a great deal of success in the past.

Both teams know there is still much to play for, not least in getting their mental, as much as physical preparations, back on track.

Wales will want to end the Six Nations up in the penthouse, rather than down in the basement! This is a game they can and should win but only if they can keep 15 men on the field for 80 minutes.

WALES TEAM:

Lee Byrne; Leigh Halfpenny, James Hook, Jamie Roberts, Shane Williams; Stephen Jones, Gareth Cooper; Paul James, Gareth Williams, Adam Jones, Jonathan Thomas, Alun Wyn Jones, Andy Powell, Martyn Williams, Ryan Jones (captain).

Replacements: Huw Bennett, Gethin Jenkins, Bradley Davies, Sam Warburton, Richie Rees, Andrew Bishop, Tom Shanklin.

West End comeback costs Town victory

Barry lose their way in second half slump

WEST END	**3**
BARRY TOWN	**3**

AFTER last week's victory in the Nathaniel Cup at Bridgend Town, manager Gavin Chesterfield took his in form side down the M4 to Swansea-based West End.

The travelling fans expectations were on a high, but took a knock after just one minute when the West Wales side scored following a fine pass on the right, when striker Kieran Callan slipped the ball wide of Dan Bradley in the Barry goal.

This, however, did not seem to upset the Dragons unduly and they began to control the game in their usual fashion, and Rob Blatchford scored in the 12th minute after some great build up play.

The Town continued in this vein, completely dominating the opposition and were rewarded in the 18th minute with a penalty when one of the front runners was brought down in the box and striker Sam Small dispatched the ball with some aplomb to give The Dragons the lead.

The Dragons were now dominating the game and chances fell to Jaymes Dixon and Sam Hartrey, but they were unable to finish. The Dragons did increase their lead in the 28th minute when Jaymes Dixon, who had missed an similar opportunity earlier, did not make the same mistake again and in a moment of individual brilliance danced around his defender and hit a sweet shot past the home 'keeper for a fine goal.

One of the oldest sayings in football is a game of two halves, and if ever there was a case for it was this it.

With fans jubilant, the second half turned the game on its head. West End, to everyone's surprise and considering their performance in the first half, started to play some lovely football and scored again almost on the hour, following a well-taken free kick when their giant centre half David Rimmer glanced a fine header into the far corner.

The Dragons kept resorting to long balls in the air, which were eagerly cleared by the big centre halves. When they did try to control the ball, the West End midfielders muscled them off.

It was now all West End, completely dominating play and it was no surprise when, in the 68th minute, they equalised with arguably the goal of the game, a move involving four players at pace going the full length of the field, resulting in a fine clip by Alex Chisanthau into the net past the visiting 'keeper.

All in all, a draw was a fair result but the Barry Town management team will be very disappointed that their team did not kick on in the second half to take all three points, while being grateful for several classy saves from Dan Bradley to keep a point.

BTSC Lotto Nos. 3. 4. 7. 8. 9. 11. No winners, Prize now £900.

Next up: Pontardawe Town at Jenner Park, Saturday, February 13, kick-off at 2pm; Caerleon at Jenner Park, Tuesday, February 16, kick-off at 7.45pm.

'Come back to netball' says Barry Club

BARRY Netball Club is looking for new players of all ages from eight years to adults to train on Mondays (term time) at the Port Road Sports Hall.

A club spokeswoman said: "If adult players just want to come along and enjoy a fitness session and rekindle their netball skills from school, this is a brilliant opportunity as we now have a superb new coach and any new players will be welcome.

"As our B team plays on a Monday, we may look at running a Sunday session, so contact Linda Rees on 01446 749965 if you are interested in returning to netball."

Barry Netball B team had another good win recently against Amersham ladies with a 25-20 victory.

Bethan Thorngate played a solid game in defence after Megan Doyle was out, due to an injury.

The team are joint second in their division and are hoping for promotion next season.

CALLING ALL CLUB OFFICIALS!

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